

Beaver County Comprehensive Recreation and Parks Plan

February 2003



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Consultant:

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PASHEK
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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The following contributors were essential to the successful development of this Comprehensive Recreation and Parks Plan for Beaver County. They are commended for their input and great interest in shaping the future of recreation for the citizens and tourists of Beaver County.

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Beaver County Recreation Questionnaire respondents

Beaver County Residents who provided valuable input at public meetings

Plan Organization

This Plan is organized in the following manner:

Executive Summary

A broad summary, this section highlights key findings of the inventory, results of the public participation process, and recommendations for the future of recreation, parks, and open space in Beaver County.

Introduction

Information presented answers the questions, “What are the benefits of recreation and open space?”, “What is a Comprehensive Recreation and Parks Plan?”, and “How do you use such a Plan?”.

Chapter 1: Where Are We Now?

A general overview of Beaver County and its residents is provided citing vital statistics, background information, and comparison with state and national demographics. This information presents Beaver County in a contextual manner, essential for an informed Comprehensive Recreation and Parks Plan.

The community’s natural resources, cultural resources, existing recreation facilities, and governmental structure were examined in order to help determine the best approach to recreation planning for the future of parks, recreation, and open space in Beaver County.

Chapter 2: The County Parks

The four County Parks are at the core of this plan. Analysis of the County Parks system including detailed inventories of facilities and playground safety issues for each of the County Parks is presented in this chapter.

Chapter 3: Where Do We Want To Be?

Public input is a key component of the Comprehensive Recreation and Parks Plan. This section presents the methods of public input, identified issues and opportunities, as well as consensus findings.

Chapter 4: How Do We Get There?

This chapter presents the recommendations and implementation strategies for the future of recreation, parks, and open space in the County, representing the synthesis of inventory and assessment, public participation, and visioning findings.

Appendices

The appendices include supplementary background and inventory information. This information is provided as a resource to aid throughout the implementation of this plan.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Executive Summary

A Recreation and Park System Composite for Beaver County..... 6

Introduction

The Benefits of Recreation and Open Space. 10

The Comprehensive Recreation and Parks Plan..... 11

How to use this Plan. 13

Chapter 1: Where Are We Now?

Section 1.1: General Introduction and Community Background. 14

Section 1.2: Natural Resources. 21

Section 1.3: Cultural Resources. 26

Section 1.4: Recreation Facilities Inventory. 31

Section 1.5: Administration 40

Section 1.6: Recreation Programming 48

Section 1.7: Financing 55

Chapter 2: The County Parks

Section 2.1: The County Parks. 62

Section 2.2: Buttermilk Falls Park. 63

Section 2.3: Old Economy Park. 64

Section 2.4: Brush Creek Park. 68

Section 2.5: Brady’s Run Park. 71

Section 2.6: Playground Safety Audits Summary	82
Section 2.7: Spatial Analysis.	89

Chapter 3: Where Do We Want To Be?

Section 3.1: Project Study Committee.	91
Section 3.2: Public Meetings	93
Section 3.3: Recreation Questionnaire	94
Section 3.4: Key Person Interviews.	100
Section 3.5: Recreation Advisory Board Meetings	105

Chapter 4: How Do We Get There?

Section 4.1: Recommendations	106
Section 4.2: A Vision for the Future	107
Section 4.3: The Vision Statement	108
Section 4.4: Strategy Goals.	109
Section 4.5: Implementation Strategies	110
Section 4.6: Administrative Strategies.	111
Section 4.7: Financial Strategies	118
Section 4.8: Cooperative Strategies.	124
Section 4.9: Marketing Strategies	125
Section 4.10: Facilities Strategies	127
Section 4.11: Programming Strategies.	128
Section 4.12: Greenways and Open Space Strategies	129
Section 4.13: Maintenance Strategies.	130

Appendices:

A: Hydric and Hydric Inclusions Soils

B: Beaver County Schools and School Districts Listing

C: Railroad Segment Information

D: Recreation Facilities Inventory

E: Funding and Support Services Information

*Beaver County Comprehensive Recreation
and Parks Plan*

Executive Summary

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Recreation, parks, and open space contribute significantly to Beaver County residents' high quality of life. Recognizing this, the Beaver County Commissioners authorized the completion of a Comprehensive Recreation and Parks Plan.

Purpose

Beaver County's Comprehensive Recreation and Parks Plan provides an analysis of the County's current parks and recreation system and makes recommendations for its future.

This Comprehensive Recreation and Parks Plan is designed as a tool to address the current and future recreation needs of County residents, and to establish a framework for the decisions that must be made in order to provide adequate recreation opportunities. This Plan is broad in scope, encompassing a variety of issues pertinent to recreation, parks, and open space. It will lay the groundwork for the continued success of Beaver County's recreation and open space system. Future successes will be determined by each resident's participation, County financial support, regional cooperation, and enthusiasm to create safe places to live, play, and learn.

Process

The approach used to generate the Plan included a detailed inventory and professional assessment, an extensive public input process, and the development of recommendations for the future of recreation, parks, and open space in Beaver County. Public input throughout the development of the Plan helped to mold a document that is factual, realistic, and responsive to residents' needs. The public participation process culminated in the Vision for the Future. The recommendations of this Plan include changes and enhancements that will move the community closer to fulfillment of the Vision. This process was followed in order to address the major goals for this plan as developed by the Project Study Committee. These goals include using this Plan as a means to:

- r Develop a clear vision for Beaver County's Parks.
- r Study and analyze current operational, maintenance, and capital expenditures.
- r Establish a program to preserve environmentally sensitive areas, open space, and greenways within County-owned parks.
- r Create an inventory and analysis of current County Park facilities.
- r Develop an inventory of park and recreational facilities in all 54 municipalities.
- r Establish a capital improvement program.
- r Ensure that new facilities are designed (and old facilities are repaired) in accordance with safety regulations.

Public Input

Input from Beaver County residents played an important part in the development of this Comprehensive Recreation and Parks Plan. Residents' concerns, thoughts, and ideas were collected through a recreation and open space questionnaire, public meetings, key person interviews and study group meetings. The following are key issues identified by the public:

- Increase cooperative efforts
- Increase public awareness of recreation programs and facilities
- Protect natural areas within parks

- Focus on rivers for recreation and conservation
- Improve conditions of existing facilities and maintenance
- Provide access to upper portions of the Beaver River
- Provide a wide range of facilities and programs for all ages
- Develop more trails; increase emphasis on trail programs
- Provide additional programming and special events
- Need strong leadership and vision for county recreation
- Recreation and open space are an important part of residents' quality of life
- Brady's Run and Brush Creek Parks are heavily used
- Increase awareness/use of Buttermilk Falls County Park
- A County-wide open space system is important

Vision for the Future

Throughout the next fifteen years, the Beaver County recreation, parks, and open space system will grow and strengthen, adding to a high quality of life enjoyed by residents. The following narrative is the vision for this future...

Building upon current achievements, Beaver County will boast a comprehensive, coordinated system of recreation and open space opportunities provided by the State, County, local municipalities, and private entities. The County shall actively support the availability of recreation facilities and activities for people of all ages and interests.

The County's four parks (Brady's Run, Brush Creek, Old Economy, and Buttermilk Falls), in conjunction with Raccoon Creek State Park, offer a variety of regional recreational opportunities throughout the County. Working to offer facilities and activities within a reasonable distance of all county residents, County officials will collaborate with the State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources to increase awareness and use of Raccoon Creek State Park.

Every county resident lives within five to ten miles of at least one of the five regional parks in Beaver County. Through an aggressive public awareness campaign, the County will inform residents of where these facilities exist and of the Parks and Recreation Department's efforts. The Department will monitor program enrollment and facility use to ensure the availability of the necessary and desired opportunities.

Natural resource protection will continue to be an essential part of the County's recreation and open space system. County officials will support the efforts of local, regional, and state partners, both public and private, to implement an interconnected system of greenways and natural open spaces.

Collaboration and communication are the cornerstones of a successful Beaver County recreation, parks, and open space system. County, state, and local officials will collaborate to provide an efficient and widely available system. The key to this success will be the amply-staffed Beaver County Recreation Department, which will manage, maintain, promote, and expand the Beaver County parks and open space system. A county park improvements plan will be implemented to ensure safe and attractive county park facilities.

The following goal statements were developed to provide guidance as the recommendations of this plan are implemented.

Goals

Administrative

To provide an administrative structure that allows for the most efficient and effective management of Beaver County Parks and Recreation.

Financial

To fund a financial plan that will provide adequate funding for regular operations and long-term maintenance of Beaver County parks, open space, facilities, and recreation.

Cooperative Efforts

To foster inter-municipal cooperative efforts. Work to identify and cooperate with state, regional, and local partners to support a quality countywide recreation and open space system.

Marketing

To actively publicize the available County recreation and open space facilities, events, and programs.

Facilities

To develop, promote, and maintain a County recreation system that offers diverse opportunities for residents throughout Beaver County.

Programming

To support local and countywide organizations in providing recreational programming that will meet the needs of Beaver County residents. To offer regional recreation programming that is appropriate for County-owned facilities. To supplement other recreational programming offered in the County.

Greenways and Open Space

To identify, designate, protect, and develop a countywide system of greenways, trails, and natural open spaces now and most crucially in the wake of new development pressures, in collaboration with local governments and private land trusts.

Maintenance

To maintain all County-owned recreation facilities in a manner that assures their highest level of usefulness, provides visually attractive facilities, assures the safety of all users, and plans for the future. To implement a system of routine, non-routine, and preventative maintenance. To adopt a systematic plan for upgrading, rehabilitating and replacing equipment and facilities on a regularly scheduled basis.

Key Recommendations

- Create a combined County Parks and Recreation Department to be responsible for operation and maintenance of all County Park facilities and recreational programming.
- Explore a cooperative effort with the State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources to provide County-sponsored programming in Raccoon Creek State Park.
- Develop a formal marketing plan for recreation facilities and programs in the County. Professionally assemble and distribute informational brochures about the County Parks and recreation programs.
- Develop a master site plan for each of the County Parks.
- Initiate recreational programming with the cooperation of other organizations to include more cultural, environmental, and special event opportunities and explore ways to offer new County recreation programs in non-County parks and facilities.
- Develop a countywide trails, greenways, and open space plan.
- Repair, replace, and update playground equipment within County Parks, as recommended by the playground safety audits.

Success of this Plan

Central to the successful implementation of this Plan are the continuation of the current enthusiasm and support for recreation, parks, and open space in Beaver County, particularly including commitment to:

- financial support for facilities, programs, and staff;
- continued involvement of County residents; and
- cooperative efforts among municipalities, agencies, and county government.

According to the Municipalities Planning Code, the County should adopt this Plan as an amendment to the County's Comprehensive Plan. This will promote consistency among future planning efforts and ensure that park and recreation opportunities are appropriately considered.

This Plan presents a challenge to continually work toward the fulfillment of the Vision for the Future and offer a recreation and open space system that is sensitive to residents' needs.

This Comprehensive Recreation and Parks Plan fosters the continued success of current achievements, outlines guidelines for areas of improvement, and presents new directions for County officials and staff to explore. Support for the implementation of the recommendations and a strong commitment to its use as a guide and checklist for the future will contribute to a high quality of life in Beaver County for years to come.

*Beaver County Comprehensive Recreation
and Parks Plan*

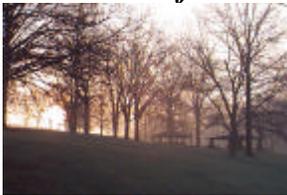
Introduction

INTRODUCTION

The Benefits of Recreation, Parks, and Open Space

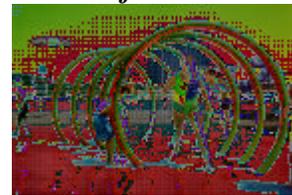
Recreation, parks and open space are essential to our quality of life, attracting residents, businesses and economic activity our communities. The economic benefits are quite clear, as businesses continue to prefer communities with a high quality of life, including an abundance of open space and nearby recreational offerings. Quality of life is also a determining factor in real estate value and economic vitality. A 1996 report by Arthur Andersen Consulting found that mid- and high-level executives increasingly chose to work in locations that offer a high quality of life outside the workplace. A 1995 poll by the Regional Planning Association and the Quinnipiac College Polling Institute queried nearly 2,000 people from around the country about quality of life. Major elements cited as crucial for a satisfactory quality of life were low crime with safe streets and access to greenery and open space. Just a glimpse at the benefits below allows us an understanding of the far-reaching implications of a well-planned recreation and open space system.

Environmental Benefits



- Ensures clean water and air
- Preserves the wildlife
- Reduces pollution
- Protects ecosystems
- Provides a place to enjoy nature's beauty

Economic Benefits



- Increases tourism
- Enhances land values
- Increases business retention
- Generates revenue
- Reduces vandalism and crime

Community Benefits



- Reduces crime and delinquency
- Connects families
- Supports youth
- Offers lifelines for elderly

Personal Benefits



- Reduces stress
- Increases life expectancy
- Balances work and play
- Eliminates boredom

The Comprehensive Recreation and Parks Plan

As we move through the twenty-first century, it is crucial to understand that recreation and open space opportunities are an important part of the lifestyles of Beaver County residents.

This study provides a thorough analysis of and informed recommendations for the future of Beaver County's recreation, parks, and open space. In order to present the County with a complete analysis of current conditions, the inventory of existing recreation features encompasses regionally significant private and public recreation facilities in the County.

Major issues influencing recreation and open space in Beaver County include an increasing development in suburban areas and growing interest in regional bicycle and pedestrian trails.

Recognizing the need to address these issues and the positive impact recreation, parks and open space have on the existing high quality of life in Beaver County, the Board of Commissioners approved the preparation of this Comprehensive Recreation and Parks Plan in the Spring of 2000. The firm of Pashek Associates was retained to assist the County in developing this Plan. The consultant worked closely with the Project Study Group throughout the planning process. The approach used to generate the Plan included a detailed inventory and professional assessment, an extensive public input process, and the development of recommendations for the future of recreation, parks, and open space in Beaver County. This process was followed in order to address the major goals for this plan as developed by the Project Study Committee. These goals included:

- r Developing a clear vision for Beaver County's Parks.
- r Studying and analyzing current operational, maintenance, and capital expenditures, thereby ensuring that the Recreation Department runs efficiently.
- r Establishing a program to preserve environmentally sensitive areas, open space, and greenways within County-owned parks.
- r Creating an inventory and analysis of current County Park facilities.
- r Developing an inventory of park and recreational facilities in all 54 municipalities.
- r Establishing a capital improvement program.
- r Ensuring that new facilities are designed (and old facilities are repaired) in accordance with safety regulations.

This Comprehensive Recreation and Parks Plan is designed as a tool for addressing the current and future recreation needs of County residents, and to establish a framework for the decisions that must be made in order to provide adequate recreation opportunities. This Plan is broad in scope, encompassing a variety of issues pertinent to recreation, parks, and open space.

The Process

The Planning Process took the County through a three-step progression of questions. Those questions are:

Where Are We Now?

This question required the search of existing conditions - What are the County's historic, cultural and natural resources, and where are they located? What facilities and resources are available within the existing County parks and recreation system? What recreational facilities are available in the County that are offered by local municipalities, non-profit recreation providers, school districts, private entities, and other government agencies? And, what is the administrative structure that manages the County's system and how does it function?

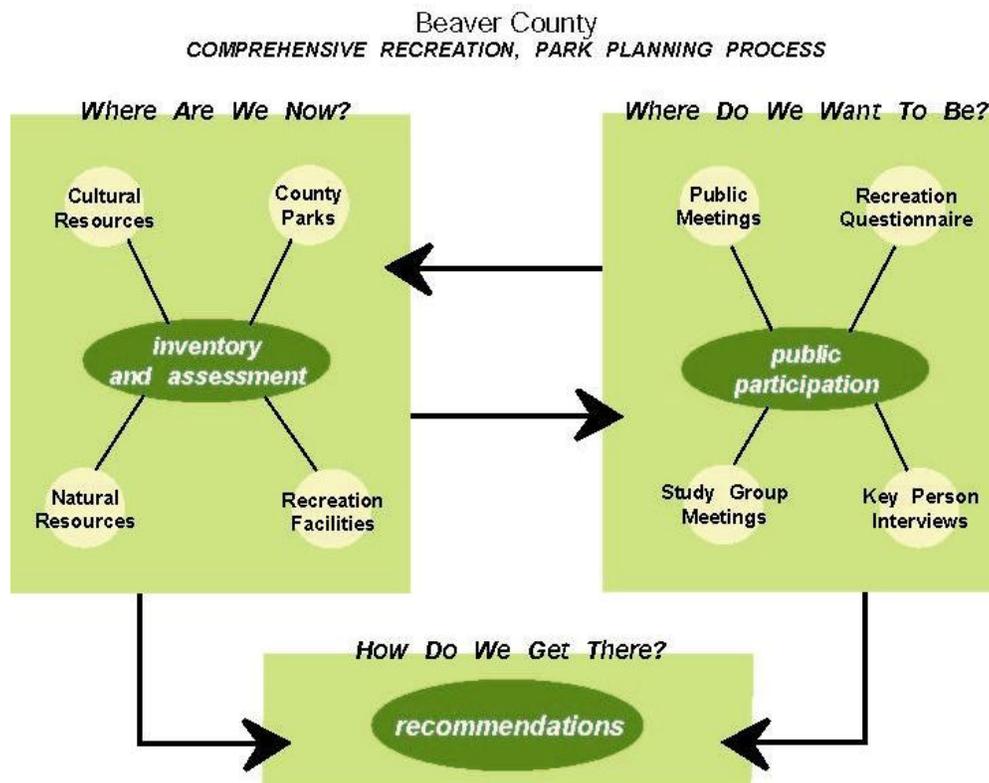
Where Do We Want To Be?

This question was intended to reach out to the public in a variety of venues to help project what the future of parks and recreation should be in Beaver County. Public participation was gathered through four sources - a study committee that represented the residents of the County, public meetings, key person interviews, and a recreation questionnaire. Additionally, analysis was done on the findings of the existing conditions to determine ways of improving.

How Do We Get There?

The culmination of the answers to the two previous questions provides the direction on how to accomplish the recreational needs, wants, and desires of the County. It includes a vision statement that paints a picture of what the future should be, goals for bringing the vision to fruition, and implementation strategies to accomplish the goals.

The following is a diagram of the process:



How to use this Plan

Beaver County's Comprehensive Recreation and Parks Plan is meant to support and enhance the County's effort to continually maintain and build a high quality recreation and open space system. The Plan can serve as a valuable resource in the following ways:

As a Guideline for the Future



As an Information Source



As a Public Relations Tool



The recommendations presented in this document offer clear directions for future recreation, park, and open space initiatives. Detailed implementation strategies outline the process for fulfilling the Plan's recommendations. The wide scope and short, middle, and long-term range of the recommendations aid in the realistic planning for implementation. The information provided will assist in setting financial goals and in identifying the appropriate allocation of County support.

The broad scope of this Plan resulted in the documentation and analysis of a variety of issues pertinent to recreation and open space in Beaver County. The document will be a valuable resource of supporting information as the implementation strategies are completed, new strategies are developed and documentation of existing conditions is needed.

Residents have a demonstrated interest in the growth of a high quality system of recreation, parks and open space. This Plan will offer convenient, practical information for public consumption. Additionally, several key components could be used by the County or local organizations to garner support for proposed projects or funding assistance.

*Beaver County Comprehensive Recreation
and Parks Plan*

Chapter 1: Where Are We Now?

Section 1.1

GENERAL INTRODUCTION AND COMMUNITY BACKGROUND

History

Admired by many in the late 18th Century, the flowing rivers, rolling hills and lush wilderness of what is now Beaver County rapidly lured new settlers with its promise of fish and wildlife, water transport, fertile ground, and trees for housing and fuel, not to mention plenty of land.

At the beginning of the 19th Century, the state began to plan for a new county, to be formed from parts of Allegheny and Washington Counties. The new County, named for the Beaver River, was officially recognized on March 12, 1800. By then, the roughly 740 square mile area had a population of 5,776.

Despite a constantly changing political and social atmosphere, and a decreasing geography (the County was whittled down after land was acquired for the creation of Lawrence County in 1849) the County's population reached over 56,000 by the turn of the 20th Century.



Geography

Modern day Beaver County spreads across 441 square miles, which includes its major waterways. Lawrence County borders it to the north, Butler County to the northeast, Allegheny County to the southeast, Washington County to the south and West Virginia and Ohio on its west. The County Seat is centrally located Beaver Borough, one of 54 municipalities in the County. The City of Pittsburgh is located 18 miles southeast of the County.

Major historic river communities in the County include Aliquippa, Ambridge, Beaver, Beaver Falls, Midland, Monaca, New Brighton, and Rochester, all of which are located along the Beaver or Ohio Rivers. A number of post war suburbs developed in the County, such as Center Township, Hopewell Township, Brighton, Chippewa, and Economy.

Access and Transportation



Both residents and visitors have a number of major roadways to choose from when traveling in and around Beaver County. Interstate 76 (PA Turnpike) crosses the northeast quadrant of the County. Routes 60 and 65 bisect the County from north to south, and Route 68 spans the County from east to west. Pittsburgh International Airport is located just 5 miles from the County's southern border.

Providing a connection from the southwest to the north of the County is Route 18, and from the southeast to the northwest is Route 51. Also traversing the southwest quadrant of the County is the Historic U.S. Route 30.

The Beaver County Transit Authority (BCTA) provides public transportation throughout the County.

Government

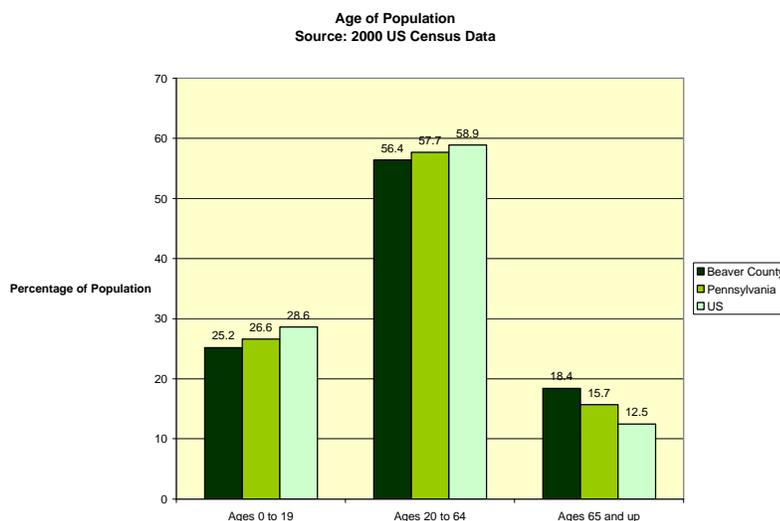
Beaver County's government is primarily in the hands of its three elected County Commissioners. These three officials are responsible for the overall administration and operations of the County. The Commissioners also hold both legislative and executive powers. Beaver County's government is comprised of traditional elected and appointed officials such as the Treasurer, Controller, Register of Wills, Recorder of Deeds, Coroner, Prothonotary, County Sheriff, District Attorney, Public Defender, etc.

The current total County budget is \$242,787,000. State and federal grants account for the most of the County's revenue. The collection of taxes is the County's second major source of revenue. Year 2000 property tax millage rate was 13.70.

Population

The 2000 Census information shows a population of 181,412 for Beaver County. This number represents a 2.5 percent population decrease since the 1990 Census. Other pertinent demographic information for the purposes of this Plan includes, but is not limited to, age, gender, race, education, employment, and income.

Age



The 2000 U.S. Census data shows the County median age as 40.7 years, Pennsylvania as age 38, and the US as age 35.3.

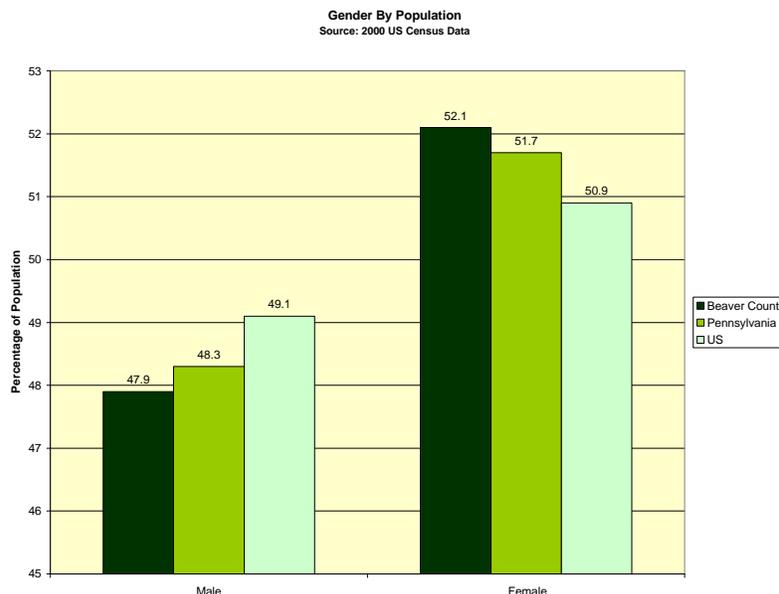
Projections

Population projections included in the 1999 Beaver County Comprehensive Plan show information obtained from the Pennsylvania State Data Center. Those estimates put Beaver County’s population at 177,941 in the year 2000, 173,005 in the year 2005, 168,643 in the year 2010, and 164,649 in the year 2015. Also included in the 1999 Plan are projections from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, State Water Plan Population Projections. This estimate lists the Beaver County population at 195,253 in 2000, 200,037 in the year 2005, 204,846 in the year 2010, and 209,865 in the year 2015.

Most recent population projections from the Southwest Pennsylvania Commission (released in the Spring of 2002) show the following numbers: 185,684 in 1997; 192,435 in 2002; 204,127 in 2010; 211,100 in 2020; 214,104 in 2025. Compared to Census 2000 data, it seems that none of estimates is correct in establishing the exact population of Beaver County in 2000. Therefore, it appears that the likely population of Beaver County in the coming years will fall somewhere in between these projection sets. Also, Census 2000 data shows a population increase of the younger (<65 years) age brackets, supporting the theory that assuming the County’s economic climate remains relatively as-is, the population should remain stable rather than decrease over the next 10 to 15 years.

Of these three sets of projections, two (including the most recent) show steady increases in Beaver County’s population over the next fifteen to twenty years. More Beaver County residents equals a need for more recreational amenities. And, with increasing urbanization of the Greater Pittsburgh region, the possibility of more visitors and tourists is likely.

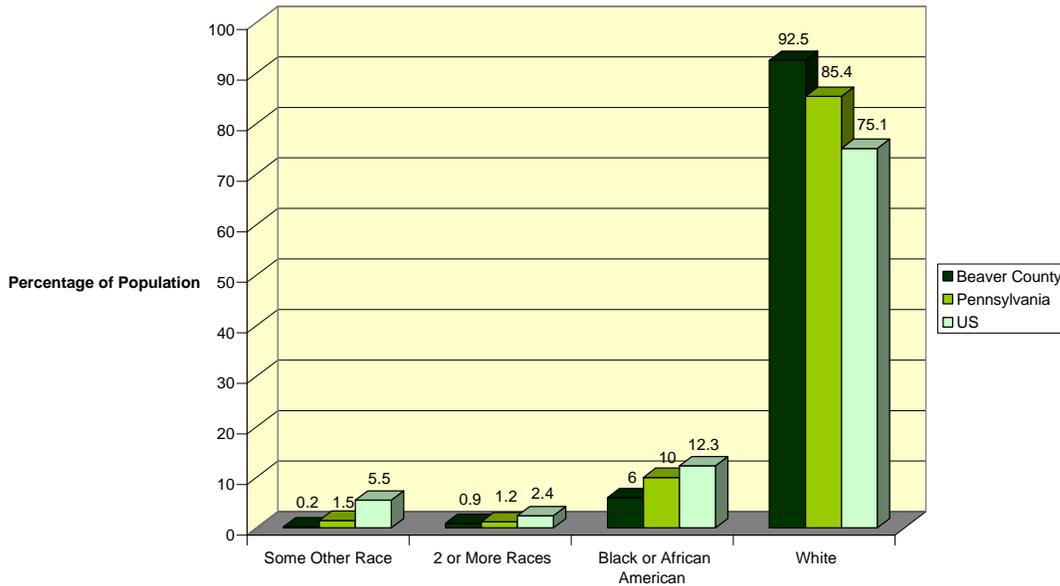
Gender



Census figures show that Beaver County’s male-female ratio has remained stable, with slightly more than half of the County population female. As you can see, this is relatively comparable to the state and nation.

Race

Population By Race
 (Highest 4 Percentages Reported)
 Source: 2000 US Census Data

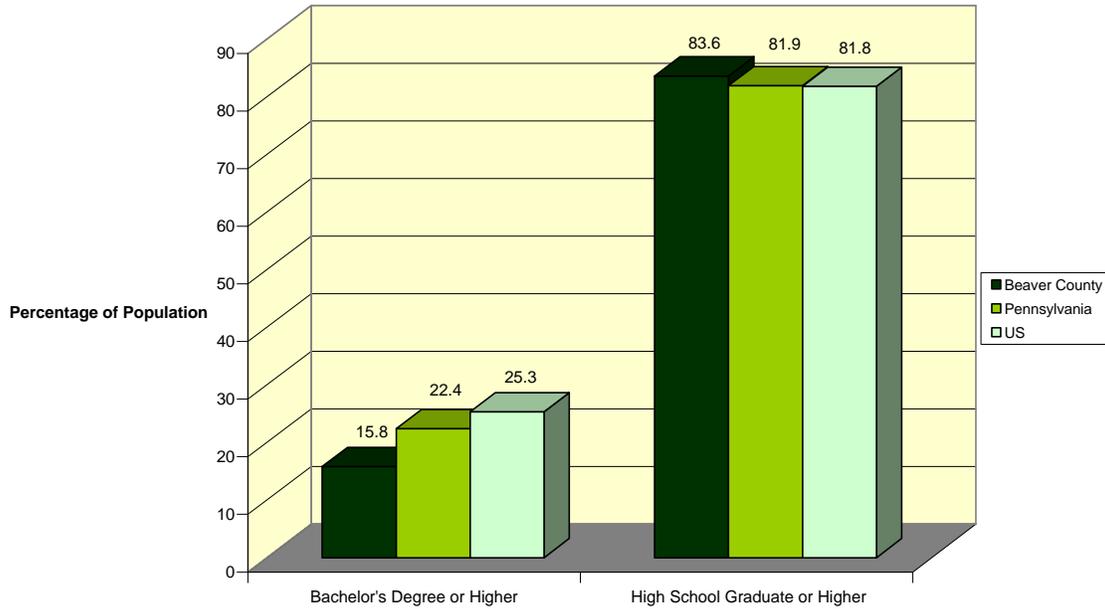


Complete 2000 Census Data for race(s) reported by Beaver County's 181,412-person population:

White	167,890	Native Hawaiian	7
Black or African American	10,811	Guamanian or Chamorro.....	6
American Indian or Alaska Native	190	Samoan	1
Asian Indian	72	Other Pacific Islander	10
Chinese.....	103	Mexican	581
Filipino	81	Puerto Rican	239
Japanese	40	Cuban	62
Korean	82	Other Hispanic or Latino	433
Vietnamese.....	38	Some other race.....	362
Other Asian	42	Two or more races	167

Education

Education Level
Source: 2000 US Census Data



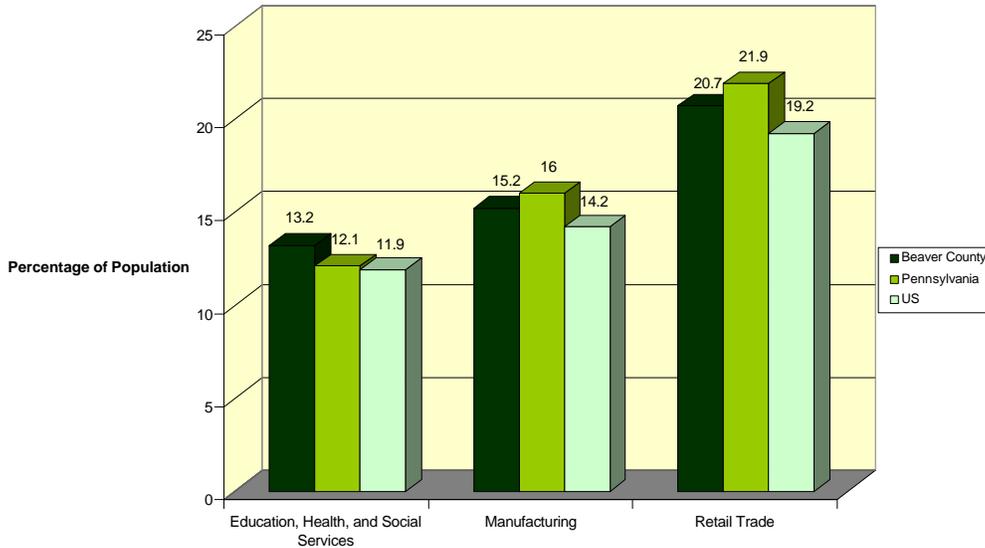
The 2000 Census data indicates that the Beaver County population for ages 25 and over equals 126, 933. This portion of the County population has achieved the following levels of education:

Less than 9 th grade	5.0%
9 th to 12 th grade, no diploma	11.4%
High school graduate	42.4%
Some college, no degree	17.3%
Associate degree.....	8.1%
Bachelor's degree	11.1%
Graduate or professional degree.....	4.7%

These figures show that 83.6% of the population of Beaver County are at minimum high school graduates.

Employment

Employment by Industry
 (Highest 3 Industries Reported)
 Source: 2000 US Census Data



The 2000 Census recorded the following industries and employment percentages of the 82,493 employed persons aged 16 and older in Beaver County:

Agriculture, forestry, fishing, hunting, and mining	0.5%
Construction	6.3%
Manufacturing	15.2%
Wholesale trade	3.0%
Retail trade	13.2%
Transportation and warehousing, utilities.....	11.5%
Information	1.6%
Finance, insurance, real estate, rental and leasing.....	5.1%
Professional, scientific, management, administrative, and waste management services	7.1%
Educational, health and social services	20.7%
Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation and food services	7.9%
Other services (except public administration).....	5.0%
Public Administration	2.8%

The 2000 Census shows that private, non-farm employment has increased 18.5% in the County from 1990 to 1998. Statewide statistics show an increase of only 6.7%, in comparison. As illustrated in the chart above, Beaver County exhibits the same top three industries as both the state and the nation.

The 2001 annual unemployment rate for Beaver County was 4.9%. In comparison, Pennsylvania's rate was 4.6%, and the US's was 4.8% for the same period.

Major Private Employers in the County include:

Zinc Corporation of America, Zinc Smelting	775 employees
Koppel Steel Corporation, Steel Bars & Tubing	775 employees
Anchor-Hocking Corporation, Glass Products	750 employees
Cutler-Hammer/Eaton Corporation, Electric Circuit Breakers	650 employees
J&L Specialty Steel, Inc., Stainless Steel	550 employees
Nova Chemicals, Inc., Styrene & Polystyrene	420 employees
Veka, Inc., Vinyl Extrusions, Windows, Doors	400 employees
Interforest Corporation, Wood Veneer	350 employees
McCarls Inc., Pipe Fabricator	308 employees

Income

The 2000 household income figures show that the County’s median household income was \$36,995, compared with \$40,106 for the entire state, or roughly 92% of the state statistic. In 1990, Beaver County’s median household income was \$24,276. These figures document a greater than 52 % increase over this decade. Comparably, state figures show an increase of 38%, and US figures show an increase of 37.8% in median household income over the same time period.

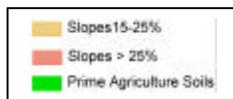
Section 1.2

NATURAL RESOURCES

The natural characteristics of Beaver County provide unique opportunities for both active and passive recreation, as well as for the preservation and conservation of some of the County's natural resources. This section provides an inventory and assessment of existing natural resources within the County to assist in the identification of opportunities for recreation, conservation, protection, and enhancement. The current and anticipated development within the County, while having many positive effects, may also result in the disappearance of unique natural areas over the next several years.

This concern can be addressed through the careful planning of parks, recreation facilities, and greenway corridors, particularly those recommendations outlined in the 1993 Beaver County Natural Heritage Inventory, by the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy as consultant. The following inventory of natural resources includes current natural elements and their role(s) as part of the County's natural resources system. Please see the maps at the end of this section for a visual representation of the County's resources described herein.

Topography



Incised valleys and rugged terrain characterize Beaver County. As such, moderately steep (>15%) and steep (>=25%) slopes are found throughout the County. The steepest areas are concentrated along the rivers and larger streams throughout the County with high concentrations of steep slopes roughly around Midland Borough, and, in and around Raccoon Creek State, Brush Creek, and Brady's Run Parks. Areas with 15% slopes and greater should be carefully examined before any development occurs due to the sensitivity to erosion, low stability, and poor accessibility. Slopes 25% and greater should remain undeveloped, but may provide important greenway connections and opportunities for trails.

Waters

The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) defines a watershed as the land area that drains to a water body and affects its flow, water level, loadings of pollutants, etc. In both a real and figurative sense, a lake or river is a reflection of its watershed. EPA's Office of Water, along with many local groups and State agencies has been emphasizing the importance of organizing water quality improvement efforts on a watershed basis.

All Beaver County lands are part of one of three watersheds: Upper Ohio, Connoquenessing, and Beaver. All three eventually flow into the Ohio River, whose basin encompasses 204,000 square miles, and empties into the Mississippi River in Illinois.

Most of Beaver County's runoff flows into the Upper Ohio watershed. The entire Upper Ohio watershed includes 1,971.66 square miles, and is fed by 10 rivers and streams, including the Beaver and Ohio Rivers, Little Beaver Creek, and Raccoon Creek. This watershed includes counties in West Virginia and Ohio, as well as portions of Allegheny, Beaver, Butler, Greene, Lawrence, and Washington Counties in Pennsylvania.

The second largest amount of Beaver County's runoff flows into the Connoquenessing watershed. The entire Connoquenessing watershed includes 843.13 square miles, and is fed by 4 rivers and streams, including the Beaver River and the Connoquenessing Creek. This watershed includes portions of Allegheny, Beaver, Butler, Lawrence, Mercer, and Venango Counties.

Beaver County runoff also contributes to the smaller Beaver watershed. The drainage of 113.16 square miles flows into the watershed, mostly from the Beaver River, Ohio River, and Slippery Rock Creek. This watershed includes parts of Lawrence and Beaver Counties.

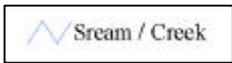
Rivers



The Ohio River flows through the County, marking a division between the northern and southern sections of the County. It is in Beaver County that the river's flow winds from northwest to southwest, heading for the Mississippi. A large river, the Ohio has a rich history as a vital part of commerce and industry in the southwestern Pennsylvania area.

Another asset is the Beaver River, flowing from north to south in the County, and emptying into the Ohio River. As one might anticipate by considering historical settling patterns, the County's highest concentrations of residents are found in the cities and boroughs along its riverbanks.

Streams



The most prominent of the remaining waterways of Beaver County include Connoquenessing and Brush Creeks in the northeast, the North Fork of Little Beaver Creek in the northwest, Brady's Run Creek in the central area, Raccoon Creek in the south/central area, and Big Sewickley Creek in the southeast. All of these streams and creeks provide recreational and aesthetic amenities that are often included in Beaver County's existing recreational system. With growing interest and efforts of individuals and groups such as PA Cleanways and the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy's Watershed Assistance Center to protect and improve these waters of the County, new and increased recreational activities shall present themselves.

Standing Water Bodies



A number of larger lakes and ponds are found in Beaver County, including Service Creek Reservoir (not accessible to public), Raccoon Lake, Hughes Lake, Brady's Run Lake and Hereford Manor Lake, State Line Lake, and Darlington Lake to the north.

Floodplains



Major floodplains located in Beaver County include the areas along the Ohio and Beaver Rivers, the Connoquenessing Creek, Brush Creek, the North Fork of the Little Beaver Creek, and Raccoon Creek. Due to the inherent nature of floodplains, development in these areas is discouraged. However, a few of these areas can be very useful and enjoyable when designed as passive recreational space, or kept simply as open space. It is important to provide accessible, comfortable, and safe access for people to the waters of the County.

Riparian Zones

River and creek access points, both in number and character, should be sensitive to the delicate environment of the river or stream. That sensitive environment includes the riparian zones which are, as defined by the US Forestry Service, narrow strips of land bordering creeks, rivers, lakes, and other bodies of water. Plant species, soils, and topography are all distinct in comparison to drier surrounding areas. Riparian zones are important aspects of these ecosystems. This is because a healthy riparian zone can:

-  Improve water quality by filtering runoff and promoting sediment deposition.
-  Allow water storage in plant roots and provide pathways to ground water layers.

- 🌿 Provide a canopy cover that shades and cools streams, thus improving habitat conditions for in-stream organisms, while also providing relief from extreme temperatures for terrestrial animals.
- 🌿 Provide food, shelter, nesting sites, and travel corridors for a variety of wildlife.
- 🌿 Provide opportunities for recreation such as fishing, hiking, picnicking, camping, and wildlife observation.
- 🌿 Slow flood waters and reduce the volume of water through root absorption.

Wetlands

 Wetlands

Wetlands, as delineated by the US Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the US Army Corps of Engineers, occur in various areas throughout the County, and the potential exists through land management to increase both the area and quantity of these special opportunities. Wetlands are valuable because they function in our ecosystems by providing very specific wildlife habitats, flood and erosion protection, sediment and contaminant filtration (thereby improving water quality), and, educational and aesthetic areas. Constructed wetlands in Beaver County include Independence Marsh.

Soils

Soil types found in Beaver County were identified through the *Soil Survey of Beaver and Lawrence Counties, Pennsylvania*, prepared by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Soil Conservation Service. Listed in descending order of land area, and including primary location within the County, are the following soil associations:

- 🌿 Gilpin-Wharton-Weikert, generally northeast
- 🌿 Gilpin-Upshur-Weikert, generally southeast
- 🌿 Gilpin-Guernsey-Culleoka, southwest
- 🌿 Gilpin-Weikert, west central
- 🌿 Canfield-Ravenna-Loudenville, generally northwest
- 🌿 Conotton-Chili-Holly, generally northwest
- 🌿 Canadice-Frenchtown-Holly, generally northwest
- 🌿 Udorthents-Canfield-Ravenna, generally northwest

Agricultural Security Areas

 Approximately 27% of County lands are classified as agricultural by the USDA, which includes croplands, pasture, orchards, groves, and vineyards.

Prime farmland soils and/or farmland of statewide importance found in the County are Rexford Silt Loam, Sloan Silt Loam, Tilsit Silt Loam, Tyler Silt Loam, Wharton Silt Loam, and Wooster Gravelly Silt Loam.

To help protect these lands, the Agricultural Security Area (ASA) program was created under the statewide Act 43. It allows farmers who own 250 or more acres (collectively) of acceptable farmland to protect their lands from non-agricultural uses and to obtain special considerations under local ordinances and state regulations. These areas are reevaluated every seven years, and may be added to at any time. The ASA program does not prevent an owner of ASA parcels from developing his/her land.

To protect agricultural lands throughout the Commonwealth, the Agricultural Conservation Easement Program was developed in 1988 as an amendment to Act 43. County administration of the program began in 1995 by the Beaver County Agricultural Land Preservation Board. Through this program, local and state governments are able to purchase easements, e.g. development rights, from owners of prime farmlands. The protection of these farmlands equals protection of open spaces and their visual impacts on the County.

Hydric Soils

Soil units with major hydric components found in Beaver County are the Atkins silt loam, Brinkerton silt loam, Canadice silt loam, Frenchtown silt loam, Holly silt loam, Purdy silt loam, Rexford silt loam, and Sloan silt loam. In addition, there are a number of soil units with inclusions of hydric components. The locations of hydric soils influence recreational developments, particularly fields and picnicking areas, due to a likelihood of flooding and ponding. For a complete list of hydric and hydric inclusions soils, please see Appendix A.

Beaver County Natural Heritage Inventory

The Beaver County Natural Heritage Inventory¹ was completed in May of 1993 by the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy to act as a tool for county and state officials and consultants for planning development and setting protection priorities for significant natural heritage areas in Beaver County.

Listed in the Inventory are natural areas, biologically diverse areas, dedicated areas, landscape conservation areas, and other heritage areas. The Inventory ranks these locations as being of exceptional, high, or notable significance. The northern fork of Brady's Run is identified by the Inventory and future improvements to the park must be sensitive to this resource.

This Comprehensive Recreation and Parks Plan recognizes and endorses the findings of the Natural Heritage Inventory. The Inventory should be considered a supplement to this Plan. Ranked areas of exceptional, high, or notable significance to the natural heritage of Beaver County should be protected in accordance with recommendations of the Inventory. These areas should not be developed for recreational purposes.

Conservation Initiatives

Beaver County Conservation District

Section 319 Non-point Source Management Program Grant Watershed Study

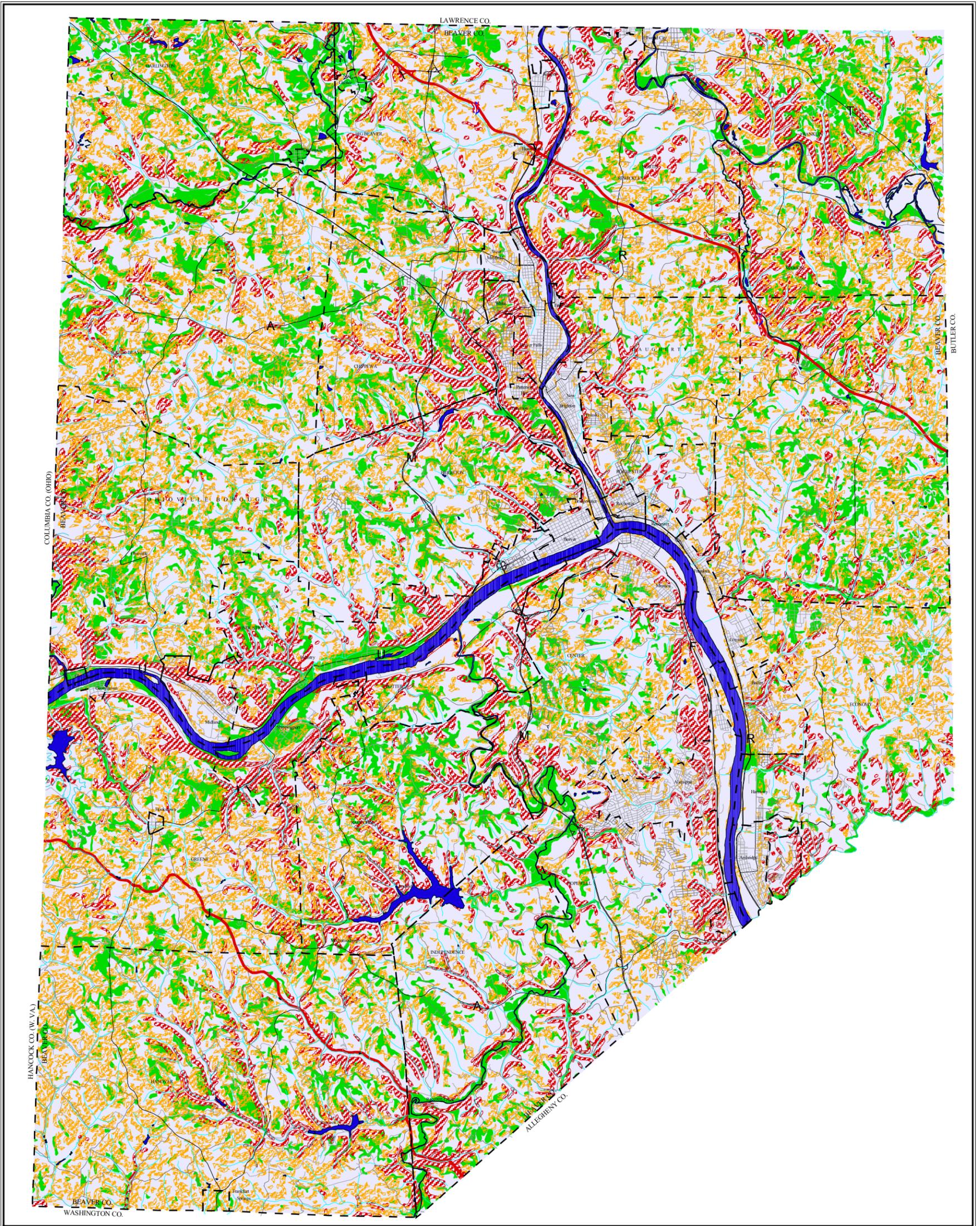
This study will identify strategies for streambank restoration and provide water quality inventory for the Brady's Run Lake watershed. It is the County's intention to incorporate the results of the study with this Plan.

Growing Greener

The Growing Greener program, signed into law by Governor Tom Ridge in 1999, will invest nearly \$650 million over several years to preserve farmlands and open space, eliminate the backlog of maintenance in State Parks, clean up abandoned mines, restore watersheds, and provide new and upgraded water and sewer systems.

¹ The Beaver County Natural Heritage Inventory is available for viewing at the Beaver County Planning Office

Four different Pennsylvania government agencies are involved in the program, established under the Environmental Stewardship and Watershed Protection Act. They are: the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), the Department of Conservation of Natural Resources (DCNR), the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture (PDA), and Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority (PennVest). Additional Information can be obtained at: www.dep.state.pa.us/growgreen/



Legend

(Elevation data interpreted from USGS Digital Elevation Model)

-  Slopes 15-25%
-  Slopes > 25%
-  Prime Agriculture Soils

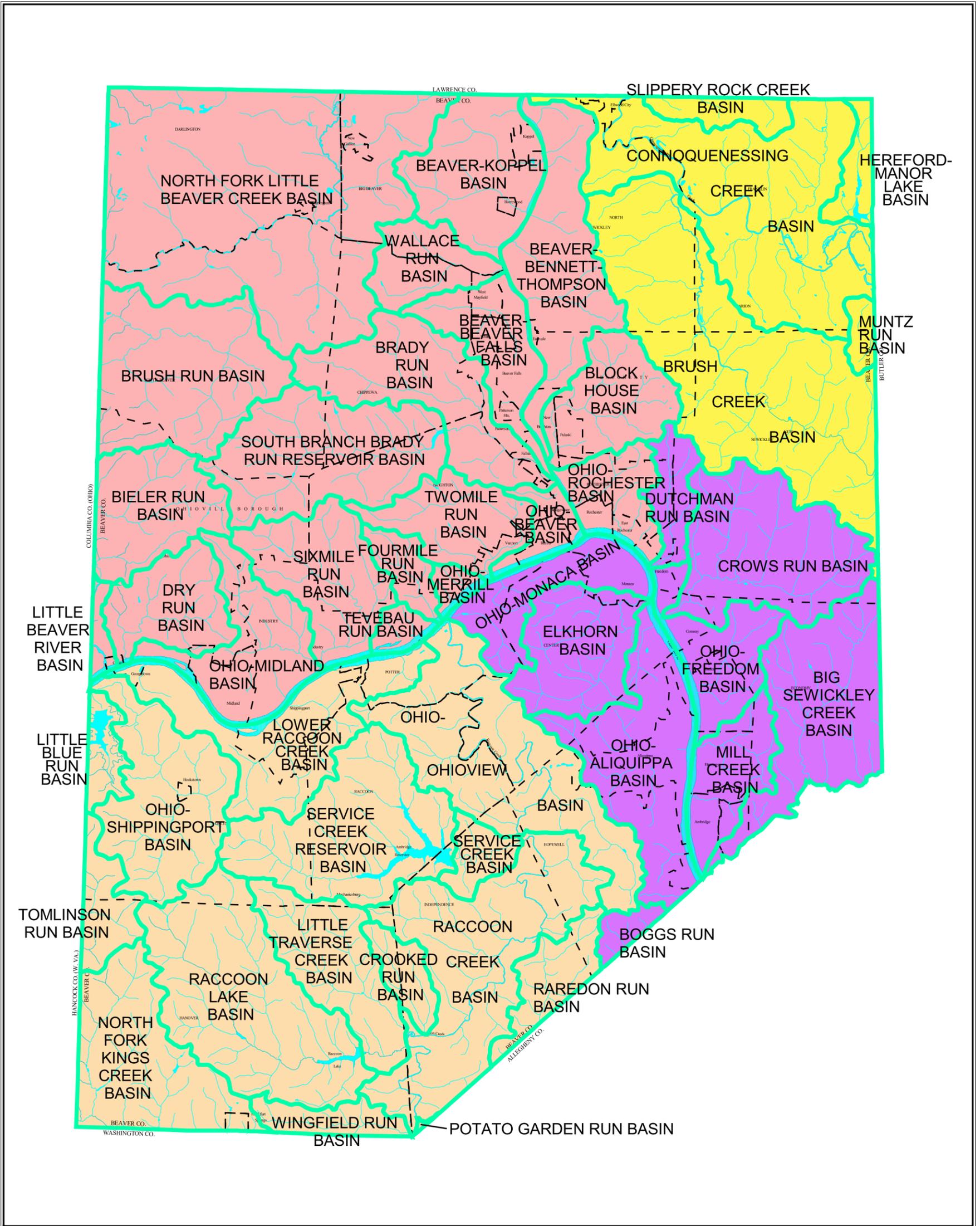


Information used to create this map was obtained from Beaver County Comprehensive Plan GIS Data. Pashek Associates makes no claims to the accuracy of base map data. Additional sources of information are noted in the legend.

Beaver County, Pennsylvania
Comprehensive Recreation & Parks Plan



Natural Features-Topography and Soils



Legend

- Watershed Basin Source: Beaver County Comprehensive Plan GIS Data
- Watersheds Source: PASDA-State Water Plan Watersheds
- Slippery Rock, Connoquenessing
- Beaver, Mahoning
- Raccoon
- Sewickley

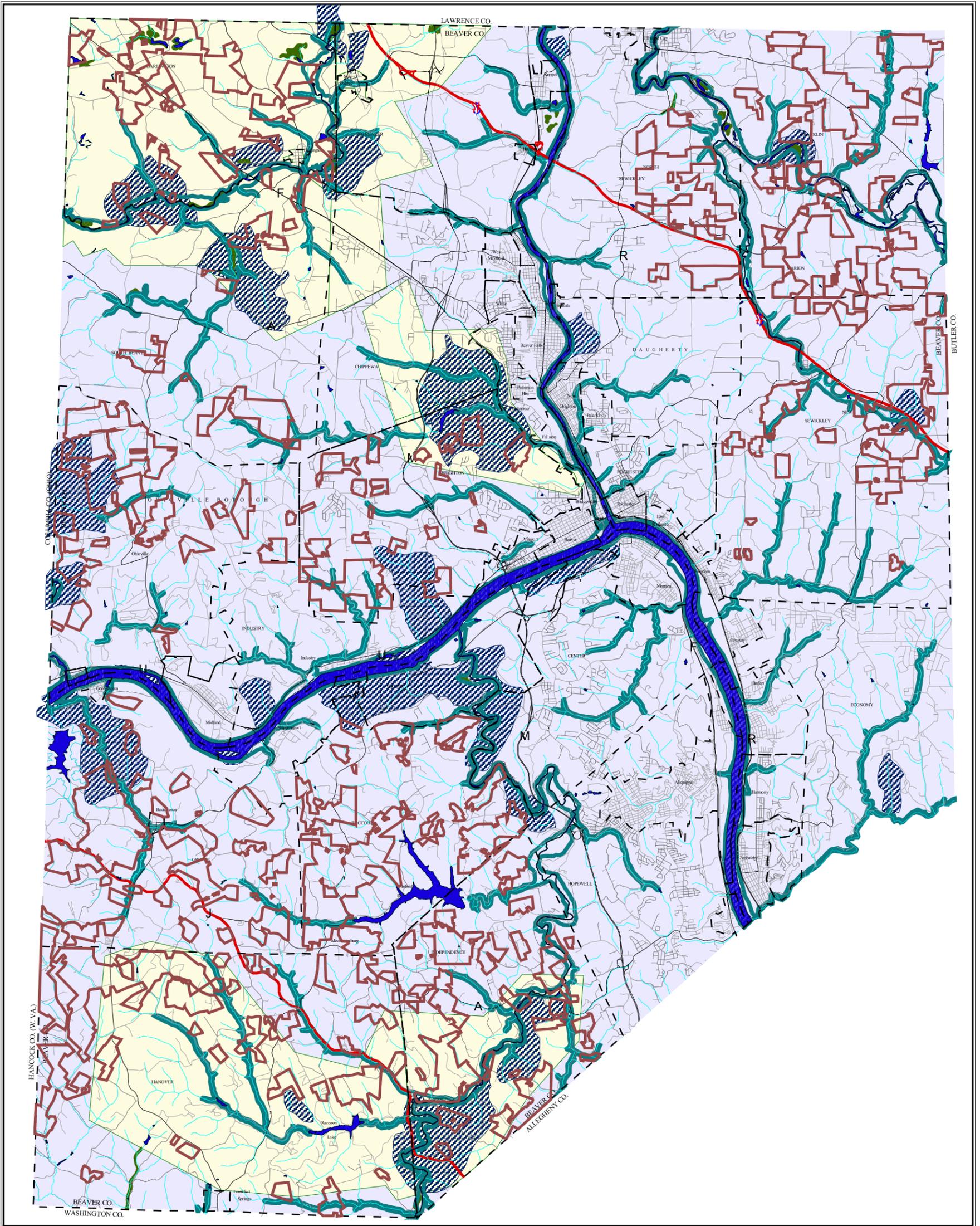


Information used to create this map was obtained from Beaver County Comprehensive Plan GIS Data. Pashek Associates makes no claims to the accuracy of map data. Additional sources of information are noted in the legend.

Beaver County, Pennsylvania
Comprehensive Recreation & Parks Plan



Watershed Boundary Map



Legend

-  Agriculture Security Zones
-  100 Year Floodplains
-  Wetlands
-  (Natural Heritage Areas Survey - 1993) Areas with High Bio-Diversity
-  (Natural Heritage Areas Survey - 1993) Landscape Conservation Areas



Information used to create this map was obtained from Beaver County Comprehensive Plan GIS Data. Pashek Associates makes no claims to the accuracy of base map data. Additional sources of information are noted in the legend.

Beaver County, Pennsylvania

Comprehensive Recreation & Parks Plan



Natural Features-Hydrology & Natural Heritage Areas & Agricultural Security Zones

Section 1.3

CULTURAL RESOURCES

A number of important cultural and historical features exist within the County. It is important to examine these features because they influence recreation, parks, and open space in several ways. Historic areas offer opportunities for interpretation and recreation, major transportation routes provide access and may act as barriers, and land use patterns lead to the development of population centers. The County's public facilities such as schools and museums also influence the character, culture, and recreation needs of its residents.

Historic Sites

① Historic Sites

Many chapters in the history of Beaver County are remembered and recalled through a rich collection of historical areas. The area around modern-day Beaver Borough was originally called McIntosh, named for the British Fort built by the General of the same name, during the Revolutionary War. The third and final home of the Harmony Society, a religious communal group led by George Rapp escaping persecution in Germany, was called Old Economy. The Harmonists began many industrial enterprises in the area. See their past home today at the Old Economy Village Historic Site. There are many other historic treasures in the County, quite a few of which are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Also refer to the Inventory and Assessment of Historic and Heritage Sites, Beaver County, Pennsylvania, 1998 for additional information.

Important historical sites within the County are shown on the Cultural and Historical Features Map at the end of this section as follows:

1. **B. F. Jones Memorial Library**

Built by the family of Benjamin Franklin Jones in 1929. Jones was one of the founders of Jones and Laughlin (J&L) Steel Corporation.

2. **Old Economy Village**

A National Historic Landmark, it was built in 1828 by the Harmony Society.

3. **Matthew Quay House**

Listed as a National Historic Landmark, this was the house of Quay, a US Senator who resided there from 1884 to 1904. Built in 1845 by Samuel French, it is now a funeral parlor.

4. **Fort McIntosh Site**

A preserved archeological site where two regiments of the Continental Army established a fort in 1778.

5. **Carnegie Free Library of Beaver Falls**

Listed on the National Register, it is the first public library in Beaver County, designed by Osterling in the Neoclassical style.

6. William B. Dunlap Mansion

Significant as a part of African-American heritage, it was the home of Samuel Dunlap, father of Senator William Dunlap.

7. Greensburgh Academy

Listed on the National Register, it is one of the oldest buildings in the County and perhaps the oldest non-residential building.

8. Vicary Mansion

Built by sea captain William Vicary, this stone mansion overlooks the Ohio River in Freedom Borough. Now restored and functioning as a museum and community space.

9. Georgetown Site

In the 1950's the site became the Upper Ohio River's typology site for the Woodland Period (AD 100 to 1600). It is a significant prehistoric region and exhibits great biodiversity.

10. David Littell House

Located in Hanover Township, listed on the National Register.

11. Legionville

An archeological site listed on the National Register located in Harmony Township. It is the site of the first training camp of the US Army.

12. The Armory, New Brighton

Stone Armory Building, now the New Brighton municipal building.

13. Merrill Lock #6

Oldest remaining lock on the Ohio River, located in Industry Borough. It is listed on the National Register.

14. Merrick Art Gallery

A former railroad station, it is now an art gallery founded by Edward Merrick, in New Brighton.

15. Frankfort Mineral Springs

Archeological site near the lake in Raccoon Creek State Park and the site of a nationally known health spa (hotel) during the 1800's based on the healing powers of mineral waters.

16. Point of Beginning

A National Historic Landmark marking the place where Thomas Hutchins began the first survey of US Public Lands in 1785. Along the Ohio River at the Ohio State Line.

17. James Beach Clow House

A Greek Revival house used as a station in the Underground Railroad built by the brother-in-law of abolitionist John Brown.

18. Smith's Ferry Petroglyphs

Prehistoric Native American Images located at the Ohio River at Glasgow; currently flooded by the navigation pool.

Schools



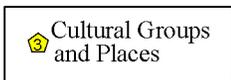
There are 15 school districts that serve Beaver County: Aliquippa, Ambridge Area, Beaver Area, Big Beaver Falls Area, Blackhawk, Center Area, Freedom Area, Hopewell, Midland, Monaca, New Brighton Area, Riverside/Beaver, Rochester Area,

South Side Area, and Western Beaver. Locally elected directors govern each school district. In addition, there are 19 private school systems, mostly religiously based.

The Garfield Business Institute, Inc., the Community College of Beaver County, Geneva College, and the Pennsylvania State University, Beaver Campus, provide post secondary educational opportunities.

The Cultural and Historic Features Map shows locations of schools and districts within Beaver County. Please refer to Appendix B for the complete listing of County Schools and their districts.

Cultural Groups and Places



Beaver County is home to a number of cultural venues, including natural educational areas, museums, civic buildings, and performance spaces. These sites, as shown on the Cultural and Historical Features Map at the end of this section, include:

1. Little Beaver Museum

A museum of historic artifacts located in Darlington.

2. Darlington Polo Park

First lighted polo field in the nation and oldest continuous polo club in existence.

3. Air Heritage Museum and Aircraft Restoration Facility

At the Beaver County Airport, Chippewa Township.

4. Richmond Little Red Schoolhouse

Located at the south entrance to Brady's Run Park. This one-room brick schoolhouse is now a museum located in Brighton Township.

5. Saint Nicholas Chapel

Located in Brighton Township adjacent to the Seven Oaks Golf Course.

6. Beaver Falls Historical Society Museum

Located in Carnegie Free Library of Beaver Falls.

7. Lopic Winery, Ltd.

Private vineyard/winery located in Daugherty Township.

8. Beaver County Courthouse

The newly constructed courthouse houses a number of departments, and is located in the heart of Beaver Borough.

9. Merrick Art Gallery

10. Raccoon Creek State Park

Built from 1935 to 1937 by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) as part of Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal program.

11. Brodhead Cultural Center/J P Guisti Amphitheater

Located on the PSU Beaver Campus, in Center Township.

12. Baker-Dungan Museum

Historic artifacts of Beaver County. Located on the campus at PSU Beaver.

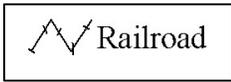
13. Beaver Area Historic Museum

Displays history of the Borough of Beaver. Located in Beaver Borough.

14. Montgomery Locks and Dam

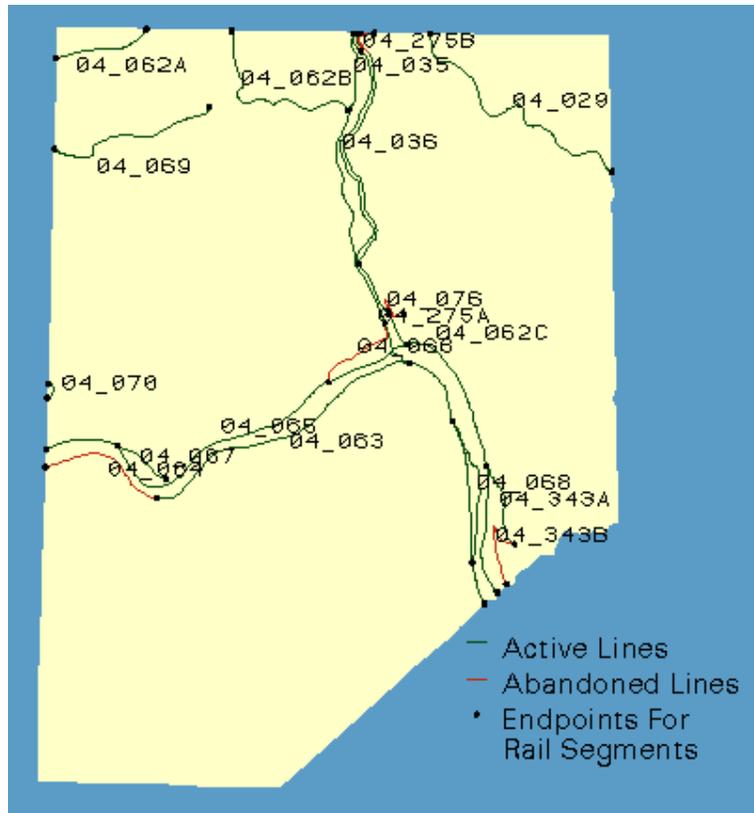
Spans the Ohio River from Potter Township to Industry Borough. Used for waterway transportation.

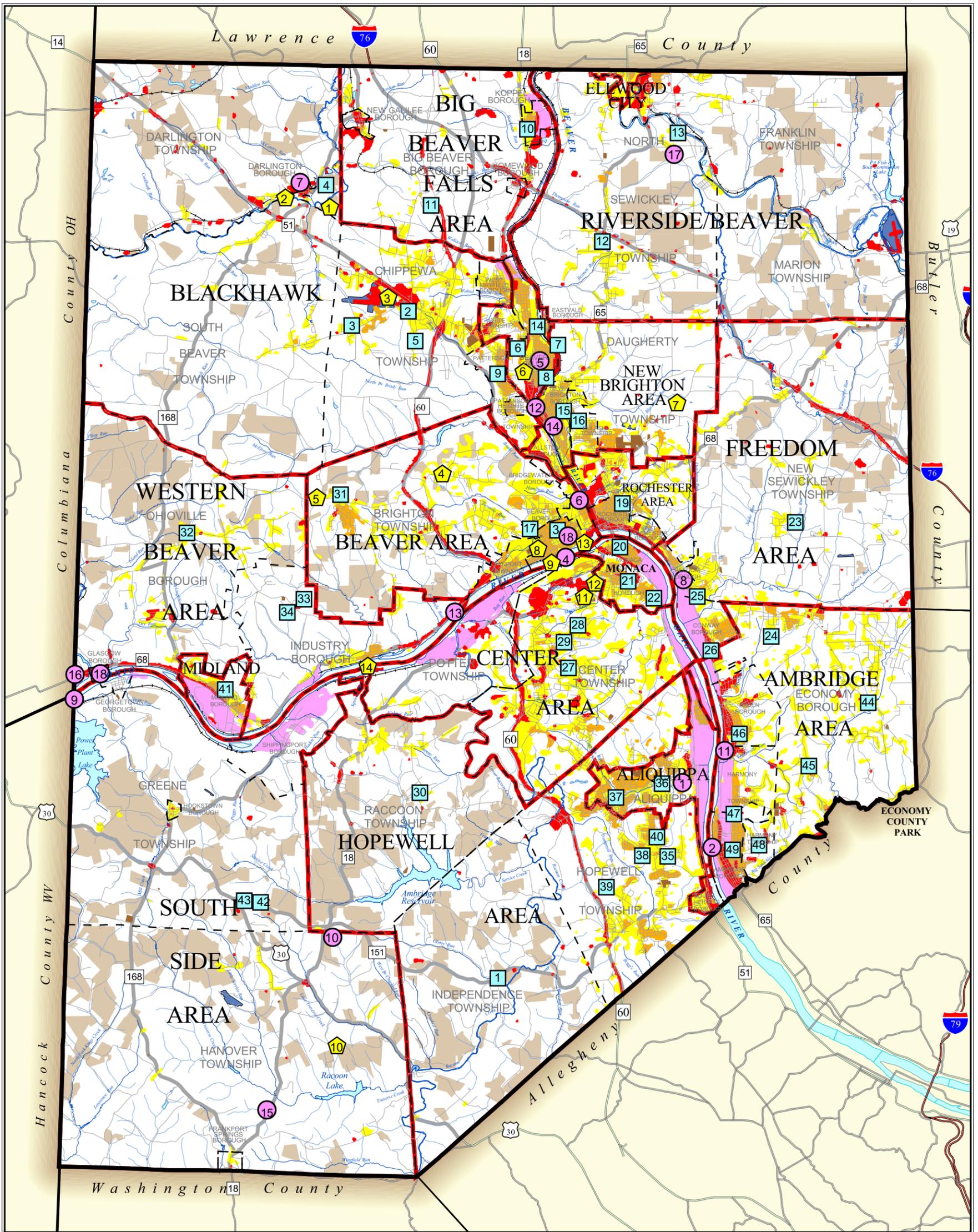
Railways



Beaver County is also home to a great deal of train traffic. One of the largest track switching areas in the country is the Conway Rail Yard, along the banks of the Ohio River in Conway Borough.

The County is home to both active and abandoned rail lines. Abandoned rail lines present opportunities for recreational use through Rails-To-Trails programs. Please refer to the Cultural Resources Map for approximate locations of abandoned rail beds. Further rail line information can be found in Appendix C.





Legend

Base Map Features

- County Boundary
- Municipal Boundary
- River
- Stream / Creek

Features

- Historic Sites
- Schools
- Cultural Groups and Places
- Refer to Document for Listing of Labeled Items*
- Cemetery
- Major Transportation Route
- School District Boundary

Landuse

- Industrial
- Low Density Residential
- Medium/High Density Residential
- Non Residential Mixed Development
- Agricultural Security Area
- Airport



1 0 1 2 3 Miles

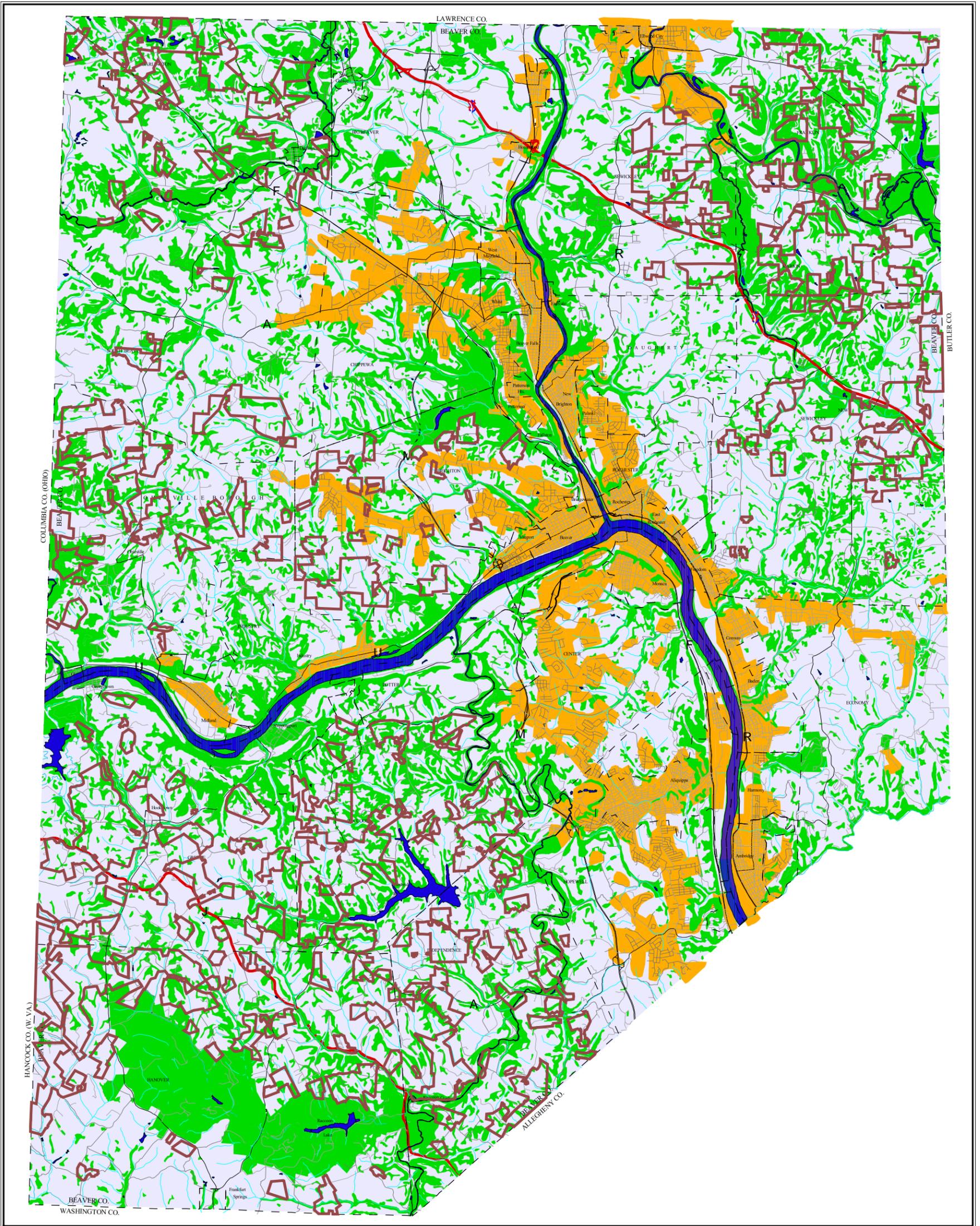
Scale in Miles

This map represents generalized information only. Information used to create this map was obtained from Pennsylvania Spatial Data Access and Beaver County Planning Commission and projected to State Plane Coordinates (1927 datum). Pashek Associates makes no claims to the accuracy of base map data. Additional sources of information are noted in the legend.

Beaver County, Pennsylvania
Comprehensive Recreation & Parks Plan

Cultural and Historic Features





Legend

- Urban Development
- Natural Landscapes
- Rural Development
- Open Water
- Agriculture Security Zones



Information used to create this map was obtained from Beaver County Comprehensive Plan GIS Data. Pashek Associates makes no claims to the accuracy of base map data. Additional sources of information are noted in the legend.

Beaver County, Pennsylvania
Comprehensive Recreation & Parks Plan



Existing Land Use Map

Section 1.4

RECREATION FACILITIES

In order to conduct any analysis of parks and recreation in the County, it is important to know what recreational facilities are available. Within the region, Beaver County residents and visitors have a vast range of recreational opportunities. These include facilities that are owned by the County as well as those owned or operated by others. To better understand and evaluate those opportunities, this section begins with an overview of the National Recreation and Parks Association's (NRPA) hierarchy of parks. It is followed by an inventory of facilities.

Hierarchy of Parks

The recommendations of this study in regards to parks are based, in part, on the premise that in order to provide the optimal level of service to County residents, recreation providers must understand and take into consideration the different ways in which people use recreation facilities. The function or use of a park depends on its size and location and availability of accessible, safe facilities. Parks can be organized into a “hierarchy” which defines their functions and the types of activities they should be expected to accommodate. According to the NRPA, there are generally five basic classifications of parks (*Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Guidelines*, NRPA, 1995). They include:

Regional Reserves

The regional reserve park is a facility designed more for the conservation of natural resources than recreational development. This type of park typically accommodates outdoor activities such as nature study, trail uses, camping, boating and fishing. Regional reserve parks are considerably larger than the regional/metropolitan parks, but have the same 40 to 50-mile radius service area.

Regional/Metropolitan Facilities

This type of facility generally serves communities within one hour driving time. These parks accommodate many types of outdoor activities, some of which may require large amounts of land or special facilities, such as special events, swimming, boating, hiking, camping and bicycling.

Community Parks

This park type serves a large percentage of the local population. Although some people may be able to walk to a community park, most users would arrive by automobile or bicycle. Because of the travel time for most people to reach the park, it becomes a “special destination,” and its features and facilities reflect this. Facilities within a community park accommodate several types of activities, and park acreage is usually adequate to provide ample room for large facilities (such as swimming pools or ball fields), group activities, and solitary pursuits (such as hiking or bird watching). Thus, a community park is truly a focus for the community.

Neighborhood Parks

These parks serve a very specific purpose. Users can and are generally expected to walk to a neighborhood park. Because they are quickly and easily reached, their use tends to be more casual and spontaneous. These parks are only large enough to accommodate a few activities and possibly a small amount of open space, which may especially benefit a densely populated neighborhood. Equipment and facilities may be specifically geared toward children, especially young children (in many neighborhoods, they form the majority of users). These parks serve as a focus for small, individual areas and ideally should serve the specific needs of its service population.

Special Use Facilities

Individual sports fields, sports field complexes, or facilities geared toward one type of use, such as a racquet club or fairgrounds, exemplify special use facilities. This type of facility is not typically located within a park. Whether privately or publicly owned, this type of facility serves as a “unique destination.”

The intent of this Plan is to provide a broad overview of available recreation opportunities, and a detailed understanding of the function of the County Parks. Therefore, areas identified by this inventory include regional reserves, regional/ metropolitan facilities, community park facilities, and special use recreation facilities with particular emphasis on County-owned parks. The National Parks and Recreation Association’s standards are as follows:

Component	Use	Service Area	Desirable Size	Acres per 1,000 Population	Desirable Characteristics
Neighborhood Park	Area for intense recreational activities such as field games, court games, crafts, playground apparatus area and picnicking serving a concentrated population.	¼ to ½ mile	1 to 15 acres	1 to 2 acres	Suitable for intense development. Easily accessible to neighborhood population, geographically centered with safe walking and bike access
Community Park	Areas of diverse environmental quality. May include areas suited for intense recreational facilities such as athletic complexes, swimming pools. May be an area of natural quality for passive recreation, or a combination of both types of recreation	1 to 2 miles	25+acres	5 to 8 acres	May include natural features such as bodies of water and areas suitable for intense development. Easily accessible.
Regional/ Metropolitan Park	Area of natural or ornamental quality, for outdoor recreation such as picnicking, fishing, trail uses, swimming, camping; may include play areas	40 to 50 miles	200+ acres	5 to 10 acres	Contiguous to or encompassing natural resources
Regional Park Reserve	Area of natural quality for nature-oriented outdoor recreation and nature study, swimming, picnicking, hiking, boating, camping. 80% of land reserved for conservation and natural resource management, less than 20% for recreation development	40 to 50 miles	1,000+ acres	Variable	Diverse or unique natural resources, such as lakes, streams, marshes, flora & fauna, topography
Special Use	Areas for specialized or single purpose recreational activities, such as golf courses, nature centers, marinas, zoos, conservatories, arboreta, display gardens, arenas, outdoor theaters, gun ranges, or downhill ski areas, or areas that preserve, maintain, and interpret buildings, sites, and objects of archeological significance. Also plazas or squares in or near commercial centers, boulevards, parkways.	No applicable standard	Variable	Variable	Within communities

Beaver County's Recreational System

The Beaver County recreation, park, and open space system includes offerings from all five of the traditional park classes, as identified by the National Parks and Recreation Association (NRPA). These include: regional parks, community parks, neighborhood parks, play lots or mini-parks, and linear parks. Beaver County is also home to a number of special use facilities including golf courses, and campgrounds.

Beaver County is part of the second largest inland recreational boating area in the United States (the port of Pittsburgh) today, a testament to the role of its rivers and streams in residents' lifestyles. Many of the largest park areas preserve and offer access to lakes and streams within the County. Notably, three of the County Parks contain water courses and/or water bodies. There are also an abundance of hunting and fishing opportunities in the County. The County is home to numerous sportsman's clubs which offer archery, trap and skeet shooting, rifle ranges, hunting, and fishing.

The four County parks, Old Economy, Brush Creek, Brady's Run, and Buttermilk Falls, which qualify as regional facilities, are located north of the Ohio River and are home to such events as the Annual World Snow-Shovel Riding Contest, Civil War Re-Enactment, the Festival of Trees, and the Maple Syrup Festival. All four parks offer both active and passive recreational opportunities. A detailed inventory of the County parks can be found in Chapter 2.

The Beaver County Recreation Department, which operates out of Brady's Run County Park, located off of Route 51 in Brighton and Chippewa Townships, is responsible for administration, recreational facilities and reservations, sports programs and outdoor activities, and maintenance by way of the Department of Public Works, of three County Parks.

Just a few of the many goals of the Recreation Department as found on its mission statement are to:

- r Assume a leadership structure role in providing a wide range of recreational services through professional recreation personnel in supervision of recreational/athletics facilities in the Beaver County park system.
 - r Ensure communication is achieved with the Beaver County Department of Public Works and the Sheriff Departments in order to properly plan for events in the parks.
 - r Ensure new and innovative programming is constantly being developed and implemented.
- Maintain reasonable prices for the use of all County recreational facilities and services. Provide efficient modern recreation facilities that will be constantly maintained.

Nearby Regional Parks

There are several parks and recreation facilities in the Counties surrounding Beaver County that serve those living within a ½ to one hour drive, which would include Beaver County residents.

Columbiana County, Ohio

2000 Population: 112,075, Square Miles of Land: 532

<u>Park:</u>	<u>Location:</u>	<u>Acreage:</u>
Guilford Lake State Park	4 miles NW of Lisbon, OH	488 acres
Highlandtown Lake Wildlife Area	NW of Highlandtown, OH	2,105 acres
Zepernick Lake Wildlife Area	2 miles E of New Alexander, OH	518 acres

Beaver Creek State Park	S of Rogers, OH	3,042 acres
Yellow Creek State Forest	Salineville, OH	756 acres
Salem Reservoir	Salem, OH	100 acres

Hancock County, West Virginia

2000 Population: 32,667, Square Miles of Land: 83

<u>Park:</u>	<u>Location:</u>	<u>Acreage:</u>
Tomlinson Run	N of New Manchester, WV	1398 acres

Butler County, Pennsylvania

2000 Population: 174,083, Square Miles of Land: 789

<u>Park:</u>	<u>Location:</u>	<u>Acreage:</u>
Moraine State Park	Interstates 79 and 80	16,725 acres
Jennings Environmental Education Center		300 acres

Lawrence County, Pennsylvania

2000 Population: 94,643, Square Miles of Land: 360

<u>Park:</u>	<u>Location:</u>	<u>Acreage:</u>
McConnell's Mills State Park	PA Route 19 and US 422	2,551 acres

Allegheny County, Pennsylvania

2000 Population: Square Miles of Land:

<u>Park:</u>	<u>Location:</u>	<u>Acreage:</u>
North Park	NE Allegheny County	3,000
Settlers Cabin Park	Western Allegheny County	1600

Washington County, Pennsylvania

2000 Population: Square Miles of Land:

<u>Park:</u>	<u>Location:</u>	<u>Acreage:</u>
Cross Creek Park	NE of West Middlesex Borough	3,500

Regional Reserves

Please refer to the Recreation Facilities Map following this section for locations of the following inventoried recreational areas:

State Parks



1. Raccoon Creek State Park
Raccoon Township

Operated by the Pennsylvania Bureau of State Parks, this 7,572-acre park offers a number of recreational opportunities within easy access to many of Beaver County's residents. The park provides boating, fishing, picnicking areas, shelters, beach and bathhouse facilities, equestrian trails, hiking/walking trails, a nature center and large wildflower reserve.

State Game Lands



The following are Pennsylvania Game Commission-owned Game Lands, located wholly or partially within Beaver County. They are listed by name, municipality, acreage, and activities.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. State Game Land #189
Hanover & Independence Townships
415 acres
3 miles south of Harshaville, US Route 30
Fishing2. State Game Land #285
South Beaver Township
& Darlington Township
2,609 acres | <ol style="list-style-type: none">3. State Game Land #148
Route 168
North of Hoytdale, PA Route 18
Big Beaver Borough
38 acres4. State Game Land #173
Ohioville Borough
1063.10 acres
Fishing |
|--|--|

Community Parks



All of the following Community Parks are classified as such based upon the NRPA's "special destination" description. Information listed here includes the park's name, municipality, area, location, and major general facilities. Details about park facility quantities and accessory facilities, such as parking and restrooms, are included in the Appendix, Section D. All communities were contacted by letter and phone call.

Ambridge Borough

1. Walter Panek Park

Beaver Borough

2. Gypsy Glen Park

Big Beaver Borough

3. Koppel Environmental & Fitness Area
4. Big Beaver Borough Community Park

Brighton Township

5. Two Mile Run Park

- 6. Dawson/Baker Fields
- 7. Hardy Field
- 8. Twomile Run Park Extension
- 9. Ellis Field

Center Township

- 10. Center Township Municipal Park

Chippewa Township

- 11. Chippewa Township Park

Conway Borough

- 12. John Lucaric Park
- 13. Edward Gratty Memorial Park

Economy Borough

- 14. Borough of Economy Park
- 15. Sunset Hill Park

Ellwood City

- 16. R. C. Stiefel Park

Franklin Township

- 17. Franklin Township Park

Georgetown Borough

- 18. Georgetown Borough Marina/Dock Area
- 19. Recreation Building

Greene Township

- 20. Mill Creek Community Park
- 21. Farm Site

Hookstown Borough

- 22. Hookstown Borough Playground

Industry Borough

- 23. Industry Borough Community Park

Midland Borough

- 24. Athletic Field
- 25. Lincoln Park
- 26. Lion’s Pavilion
- 27. Spring Lane Playground
- 28. Veterans Memorial Park

Monaca Borough

- 29. John Antoline Memorial Park (Allaire Park)

New Sewickley Township

- 30. Green Valley Park

Ohioville Borough

- 31. Ohioville Community Park

Patterson Township

- 32. Patterson Township Recreation Area

Raccoon Township

- 32. Raccoon Township Municipal Park

Shippingport Borough

- 33. Shippingport Community Park
- 34. Shippingport Boat Ramp

South Beaver Township

- 35. South Beaver Township Recreational Park

West Mayfield Borough

36. West Mayfield Borough Park

White Township

37. Steffin Hill Playground

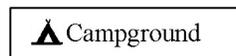
Special Use Facilities

Golf Courses



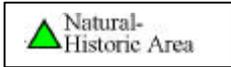
1. Connoquenessing Country Club 18 Hole
2. Old Stonewall 18 Hole
3. Fox Run 18 Hole
4. Grassy Lane 9 Hole
5. Blackhawk 36 Hole
6. Rolling Acres 27 Hole
7. Seven Oaks Country Club 18 Hole
8. Hawthorne Valley 18 Hole
9. Deer Trails 9 Hole
10. Running Brook 9 Hole
11. Ponderosa 18 Hole
12. Beaver Lakes Country Club 18 Hole
13. Ambridge Country Club 9 Hole
14. Beaver Valley Golf Club 18 Hole

Campgrounds



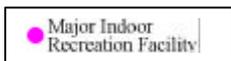
1. YWCA Camp Kon-O-Kwee
2. Silver Lake Campground
3. Hart's Content Campground
4. Girl Scout Camp
5. Boy Scout Camp (Camp Baker)
6. Orchard Grove Campsites
7. Suncrest Camp of Christian Missionary Alliance
8. Suncrest Camp of Christ
9. Scout Island
10. Green Valley Park Campground

Natural Areas



1. Independence Marsh Wetlands
2. John Auge Beegle Naturalist Area
3. Big Knob

Major Indoor Recreation Facilities



1. Community College of Beaver County (CCBC) Dome
2. Blazor's Rollerrink Inc.
3. Brady's Run Park Recreation Facility
4. Tri-County Soccer Arena
5. Beaver County YMCA

Class A Regulated Fishing Lakes

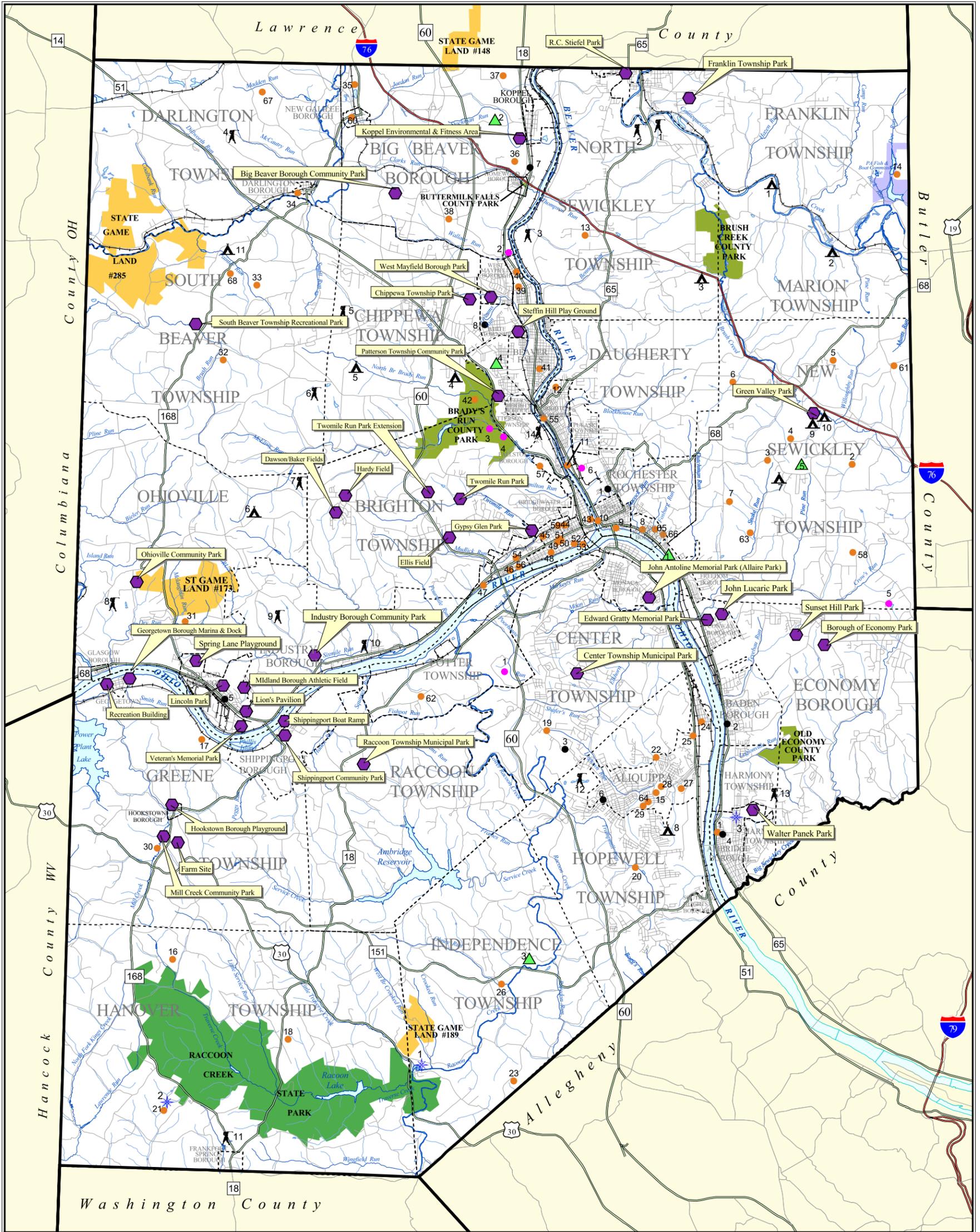
(Classified by the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission)



1. Floppin' Fish Lake
.66 acres Independence Township
Lake Trout
2. Hughes Lake
4.40 acres, in Hanover Township
Blue Gill
Brook Trout
3. Lake "989"
3.30 acre, Economy Borough
Blue Gill Largemouth Bass
Brook Trout Rainbow Trout
Brown Bullhead Smallmouth Bass
Brown Trout Yellow Perch
Channel Catfish

Other Recreational Facilities

All other facilities inventoried, including bowling alleys, and other types of local recreation facilities are located on the Recreation Facilities Map for reference. A complete listing of these facilities is located in Appendix D.



Legend

Base Map Features

- County Boundary
- Municipal Boundary
- Interstate Route
- U.S. / State Route
- Local Road
- River
- Stream / Creek
- Railroad

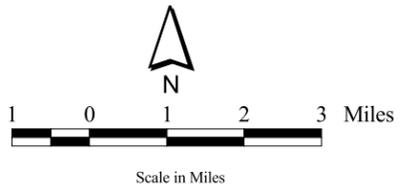
Recreation Facilities

- Community Park
- Major Indoor Recreation Facility
- Campground
- Bowling Alley
- Golf Course
- Class A Regulated Fishing Lake
- Natural-Historic Area
- Other Recreation Facility

Refer to table in document for list of numbered items

Managed Lands

- State Park
- County Park
- State Gameland
- PA Fish Commission Lake Property



Information used to create this map was obtained from Beaver County Comprehensive Plan GIS Data. Pashek Associates makes no claims to the accuracy of base map data. Additional sources of information are noted in the legend.

Beaver County, Pennsylvania

Comprehensive Recreation & Parks Plan

Recreation Facilities Inventory



Section 1.5

ADMINISTRATION

This administrative section addresses the "delivery system" for Beaver County Parks and Recreation (County-owned facilities and County-managed Recreation Programs). The delivery system is generally not visible to the public but plays a significant role in creating the final product that is provided to County residents. Included are the legal structure under which services are provided, a description and analysis of general operations, as well as planning, personnel, maintenance, and safety and risk management.

Legal Structure

The Beaver County Board of Commissioners is ultimately responsible for all parks and recreation within the county. The commissioners oversee two departments that share responsibility of implementation of park and recreation functions. They are the Public Works Department, which oversees the maintenance of parks, and the Recreation Department, which administers recreation programming and manages facilities.

Recreation Advisory Board

The County Board of Commissioners established the Beaver County Recreation Advisory Board on March 23, 2000. The purpose of the Board is to assist the County Recreation Department staff concerning use of facilities and recreation programming. The Board is able to make recommendations to the Recreation Department Director who will forward them to the Board of Commissioners.

Composition of the Board:

- Fifteen members appointed by the Board of Commissioners
- Recreation and Tourism Director is a non-voting member
- Recreation Board Officers are chairperson and vice-chairperson
- Recreation Board Standing Committees are appointed as deemed necessary
- Members serve either a two (2) or three (3) year term

Duties and Responsibilities of the Board:

- Advise the Board of Commissioners in the operation and development of all County Parks
- Advise the Commissioners in program offerings in all County Parks
- Assist the Director in leases and negotiations concerning the use of park facilities and programming as needed
- Make recommendations to the recreation director who will forward them to the Board of Commissioners who has the final authority

The Beaver County Recreation Advisory Board is the vehicle for general public input into the recreational services in the County. The Board meets on a monthly basis and operates within adopted by-laws. The membership, appointed by the Commissioners, is currently comprised of representatives of special interest groups such as AARP, tennis, ice hockey/skating, horse arena, etc. Input is certainly valuable from these user groups and they should be a significant component of the Board. However, in addition to user group representatives, consideration should be given to assuring that a geographic representation of the County is also included on the Board.

Intergovernmental Cooperation

Although Beaver County works very closely with a number of communities and a variety of organizations, there are no formal cooperative agreements existing.

General Operations

The Recreation and Tourism Director and staff (four administrative persons and a number of full-time, part-time, and seasonal employees) handle day-to-day operations of the Beaver County Recreation Department. The Department is charged with development and operation of recreational facilities and programs for the citizens and visitors of Beaver County.

The department is divided into the following four sections:

Planning, grants, research, and administration

Responsible Party, Recreation Director

Responsible for the entire recreation program for the County. Primary functions include publicity of programs, events, and facilities; long and short-term planning; acquisition and management of grants; research new and additional means of getting the maximum usage out of facilities, and; overall administration of the Department.

Recreation facilities and reservations

Responsible Party, Recreation Coordinator

Responsible for the operation of all County recreation facilities and reservations for their use. The primary function of this section is to schedule the use of County recreation facilities.

Sports programs and outdoors activities

Responsible Party, Program Manager

Responsible for the coordination of all sports organizations that use County facilities. He or she coordinates with outside recreation providers for use of County facilities; determines programmatic staffing needs; assures a fair and equitable distribution of facilities among organizations, and; oversees all programming.

Park maintenance

Responsible Party, Director of Public Works

Responsible for maintenance of all County Recreation Facilities.

Recreation, Tourism, and Public Works

Management of the County's parks and recreation is complicated by the fact that there is not a singularly focused department to administer it. As many as three departments (Recreation and Tourism, Public Works, Planning Commission) play a role in management and/or operation of County parks and recreation.

In 2001, the Recreation and Tourism Departments were combined creating a department with a dual focus. As a result of the change, the Recreation Director is required to lead both functions. The Public Works Department is responsible for managing the maintenance of all County recreation facilities, and the County Planning Commission oversees parks and recreation planning.

Public input gathered as part of this Plan has indicated that the general public believes that the County should be looking to a higher level of quality for parks and recreation. One of the keys to a successful parks and recreation operation is a focused parks and recreation mission. The current system is rather disjointed. While each of the departments are quite competent and capable of carrying out their individual functions, there is no focused vision, mission, or plan for operating parks and recreation in Beaver County.

Following are three administrative options for management of Beaver County's parks and recreation.

1. Continue the existing system
Continuing the existing system would allow each department to continue in their respective functions. There would be little improvement in the level of planning, maintenance, programming or administration. The parks would continue to function at the current level with some improvements based on this plan. The only additional costs would be for individual changes or improvement within departments.
2. Create a Coordination Committee among the Department involved in Parks and Recreation
The Coordination Committee should be comprised of the Directors of Recreation, Planning, and Public Work. The Committee should meet bi-weekly to assure that appropriate coordination is taking place. Under this system there would be a stronger coordination of efforts that would likely improve the quality of parks and recreation in the County. However, there would still be no singular focus. Each department would still have their own priorities that may or may not be in the best interest of parks and recreation. This also creates another level of responsibility for each of the department directors.
3. Create a new Department of Parks and Recreation
Creation of a completely new Department of Parks and Recreation provides the opportunity for the greatest improvement in parks and recreation. The department would include all the functions of programming, facility management and maintenance, planning, and administration. The department would be focused specifically on providing high quality parks and recreation for the residents of Beaver County. They would be working on prioritizing the needs of parks and recreation rather than prioritizing between improvements to parks or other county needs. They would be focused on the vision created for the future of parks and recreation and would be motivated to provide the best possible services.

This study recommends the creation of a new Department of Parks and Recreation.

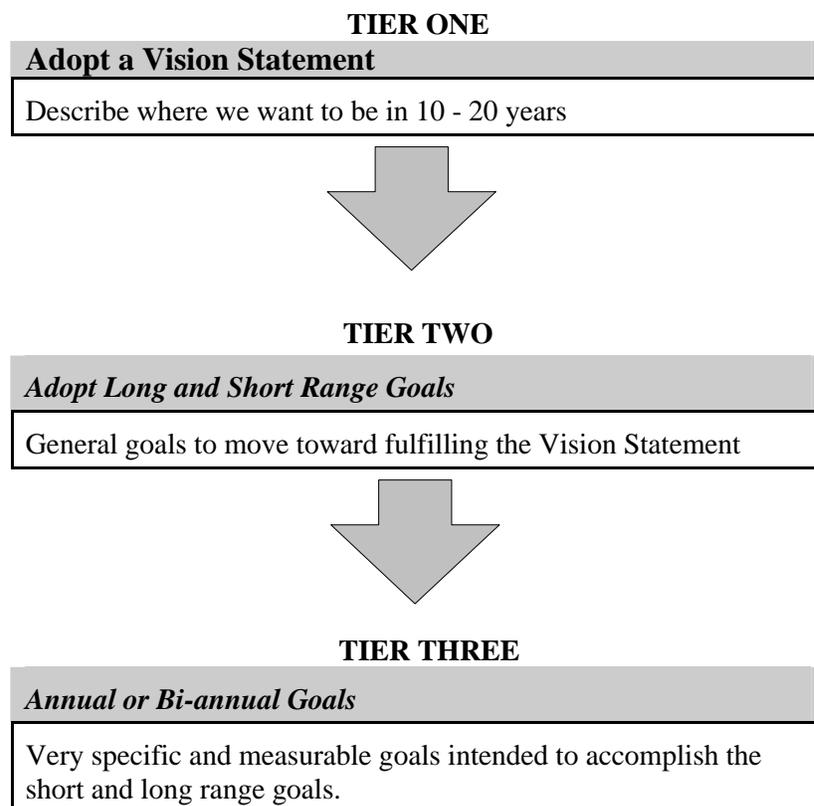
Parks and Recreation Planning

There is no formal system of planning for parks and recreation. As greater demands have been placed on County facilities, County officials have begun to recognize the need for a more formal planning system. This Plan will lay the groundwork for future planning efforts.

Three Tier Goal Setting System

One example of a formal system of goal setting would include a three-tier plan. The first tier would be the adoption of a written vision statement for the department. Within that vision, the department should adopt a series of both long and short-range goals (tier two) and then create annual or biannual goals (tier three) to be accomplished within those parameters.

Each level becomes more clearly defined. The vision statement is intended to be very broad-based and forward-looking. Annual goals are developed to accomplish the short-range goals, while the long and short-range goals are created to fulfill the agency's vision, all goals should be clearly defined and measurable. It is necessary to continually evaluate and update goals on an annual basis, and to revise long-range goals periodically. Adoption of this Plan provides both a vision statement and long and short-range goals. Using the above stated system, the department would simply need to prioritize and adopt annual goals that begin to accomplish the long- and short-term goals thus moving toward the fulfillment of the vision statement.



Marketing

One of the greatest deficiencies identified by the public was the lack of information about County Parks and programs. The County publishes seasonal brochures that outline major events that are operated throughout the County. These are primarily countywide special events of a fairly large magnitude. These brochures are published by the Tourist Agency primarily as tourist information.

A seasonal recreation calendar published by the Recreation Department specifically intended to identify recreation programs that are available would be more appropriate for the recreation department. This

brochure could include much of the information available in the current tourism brochure but would be focused on County residents looking for recreation opportunities.

Opportunities for Public Involvement

The existing Recreation Advisory Board is perhaps the strongest vehicle for public participation. The Recreation Advisory Board is intended to serve as the conduit to bring input from the public to the County Commissioners. However, County residents are always welcome to express their views at County Commissioner meetings as well.

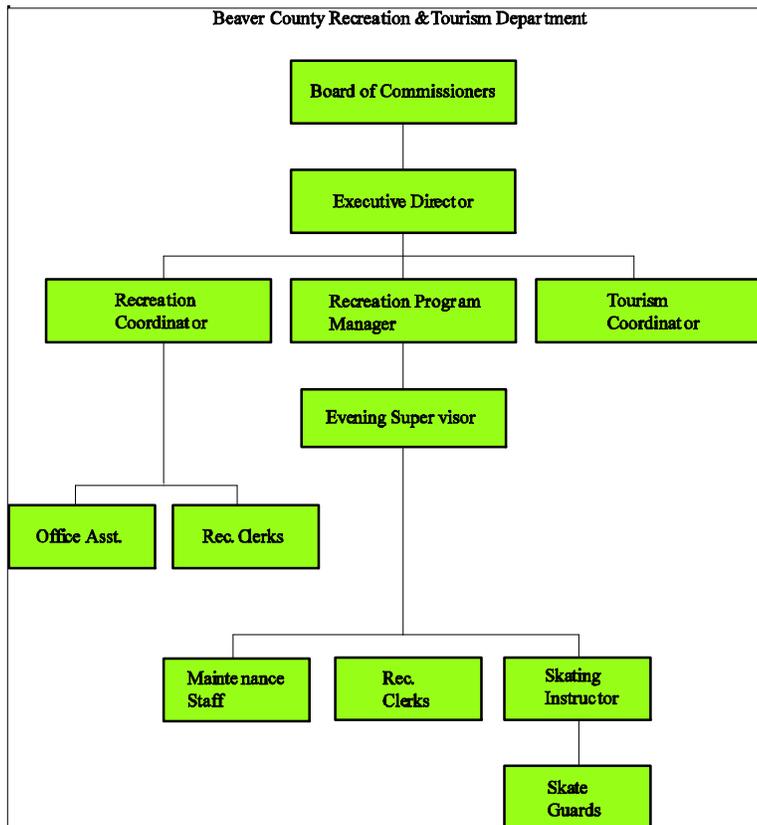
The Recreation Advisory Board should utilize the public input to serve as an advocate for parks and recreation with the County Commissioners. Other possibilities the Recreation Advisory Board may employ include park and program evaluation forms, public input sessions at the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meetings, public meetings to discuss plans and goals of the Board, and/or questionnaires.

Personnel

Staffing of Beaver County parks and recreation is divided according to department – Public Works for park maintenance, and Recreation for administration and programming.

Department of Recreation

The Director of Recreation and Tourism administers the Department of Recreation. The organizational structure of the Department is as follows:



Department of Public Works

The Director of Public Works administers all Public Works functions, which includes park maintenance.

A Park Foreman is assigned to each Brady's Run, Brush Creek, and Old Economy Parks. Additional full-time and/or seasonal staff is also assigned depending on the size and types of facilities within each park. Most of the staff is also used for other Public Works functions outside the parks.

Five staff persons are assigned to the Brady's Run Park Recreation Facility and are responsible for its daily maintenance and upkeep. This includes the janitorial work, general building and equipment maintenance, and maintenance of the ice surface in the ice arena. Additional Public Works staff may be utilized to assist with larger or more complex projects.

Maintenance

The Department of Public Works (DPW) performs all maintenance functions within the County Parks. The department allocates approximately 25% (\$300,000) of its yearly personnel budget to parks and recreation facility maintenance. Included in DPW's organizational structure are park foremen who perform the routine day-to-day maintenance functions at their respective facilities. Items beyond the scope of routine maintenance are reported during a weekly DPW staff meeting and assignments to accomplish tasks are made by the director. This process is made possible through an on going cross training program for DPW employees to minimize duplication of efforts.

The Brady's Run Park Recreation Facility has its own maintenance staff of five (5) Public Works employees who are assigned to the facility and report to the Recreation Director. They are responsible for the general maintenance of the Brady's Run Park Recreation Facility, including the grounds surrounding that facility. Non-routine maintenance/construction must be forwarded via a work order to the County Planning Commission for review and placement determination. Work that the Engineering Department feels can be accomplished by the DPW is assigned to them. Other work items outside the abilities of DPW are contracted out to the private sector.

At the present time, the capital budgeting process for major park improvements has been eliminated, and in fact, departments have been asked to reduce their operating budgets from the preceding year by 5%. This mandate has required the deferment of regular anticipated facility maintenance to the conceivable point of becoming a capital expenditure. The normally accepted practice of developing and implementing a Maintenance Management Plan for parks/facilities has been reduced to maintenance on an as needed basis. There is a need to re-institute the capital/long-range budgeting process so that a long-term approach is given to maintenance.

The Recreation Department has faced numerous difficulties in utilizing Public Works employees for maintenance of recreational facilities. The system is structured in such a way that it is usually newer Public Works employees that are assigned to work for the Recreation Department. The positions in the Recreation Department tend to be "less desirable" because they require both evening and weekend work. Even though the employees work through the Public Works Department, the Recreation Director supervises them. The Recreation Director is not involved in the hiring of the staff but must utilize staff that is assigned. Because the positions are viewed as less desirable, the employees tend to stay only short periods of time before moving to the more desirable "day turn only" positions within Public Works. Similar problems are encountered with seasonal maintenance employees utilized by the Recreation Department.

Additionally, the Recreation Department requires staffing on a variety of day, evening, weekend shifts, and holiday shifts. It becomes very expensive to operate Brady's Run Park Recreation Facility because of pay rates negotiated by the Union. The expensive pay rates coupled with the management issues result in a less than desirable staffing situation.

Prior to the budgetary reduction mandate, DPW was able to request funds for major park projects. As with the regular budgeting process, the Director of DPW submits the department and past capital budgets directly to the Board of Commissioners for their consideration. This is generally done without input from the recreation department personnel, which may indicate a lack of coordination of service for the park areas. Although DPW provides maintenance services to all of the County Parks, the Recreation Department handles all facility programming and may have a different perspective on facility maintenance priorities.

Maintenance Equipment Inventory

The County did not provide an inventory of maintenance equipment for use in this study. Field observation of available equipment shows a great variety in the type and quality of equipment available for park maintenance. In some cases, vehicles such as pick up trucks are relatively new and in good condition. On the other hand, there is some equipment that is as much as fifty years old that is still being used. Much of the maintenance equipment has outlived its useful life and requires extensive maintenance to keep it in operation. The dollars invested in maintenance could be better utilized in purchasing new equipment.

Adequacy of Maintenance

Maintenance in the County Parks is generally good. Daily and routine maintenance is adequate. The Public Works department does a very good job with available funding.

Perhaps the greatest deficiency facing park maintenance is the lack of funding available for regular upgrading of facilities, long-term capital improvements, and maintenance equipment replacement. The funding deficiency results in unsightly facilities, a perception by the public that the parks are not well maintained, and unsafe conditions in both facilities and equipment.

Some equipment and facilities in the parks including electric lines, play equipment, buildings, walkways, trails, roads and parking areas are in serious need of repair or replacement. It is apparent that funding has not been allocated over the years to allow for regular upgrades and/or replacement. This makes it very difficult to maintain them in good usable condition. Plans need to be made for the replacement of all park equipment on a regular basis.

Additionally, the maintenance department must deal with a significant amount of vandalism within the parks. Attempts are made to curtail vandalism as much as possible through maintenance efforts. This includes the closing sections of the parks that are not in use, immediate repairs to vandalized facilities, and security watches by maintenance staff while they are on duty.

The remote locations of the parks make them difficult to secure. A system of police patrols and security needs to be implemented.

Safety and Risk Management

The safety audit of playground equipment shows numerous deficiencies in playground maintenance and addresses many safety issues. Playground facilities exhibit safety hazards ranging from low-level hazards to

very serious ones. These playground hazards are identified in Chapter 2 of this report. Safety hazard reparations should be dealt with immediately.

Beaver County does not have a risk management plan. The County Solicitor's office and the Fiscal Director handle risk management. There is also a county safety committee that addresses both public and employee safety issues.

This area of Risk Management needs to be addressed by both DPW and the Recreation Department. Currently, DPW schedules in-service training programs for its employees on various hazards. The respective departments should work more closely together to develop a combined Risk Management Plan for both Departments. This would provide the County with needed documentation for problem areas. Currently, there is no facility, grounds or playground safety inspection vehicle utilized by maintenance personnel.

It is recommended that a risk management plan be developed and implemented. This plan is an important proactive step that will help to prevent injuries. The risk management plan should include documented safety inspections. By implementing a risk management program, municipalities can prepare a defense against claims or lawsuits.

To prepare a successful risk management plan, one must consider five factors:

1. Develop a plan of action by identifying hazards, prioritizing them, and determining costs to correct those hazards. This plan should include routine playground safety audits. The higher the playground use, the more frequently a playground should be reviewed for safety hazards.
2. Address known problems by correcting hazards.
3. Take all action necessary to prevent accidents from occurring in the first place.
4. Implement proactive steps by providing adequate training, acting immediately on complaints, and repairing equipment only with parts provided by the equipment manufacturer.
5. Document all activities including written inspection reports and corrective actions.

Section 1.6

RECREATION PROGRAMMING

The Recreation Department is charged with the responsibility of offering leisure programs; scheduling County recreation facilities, and hiring/supervising qualified program staff members for its numerous recreational services. Four (4) administrative staff and a number of full-time, part-time, and seasonal employees do the facility scheduling, programming, and coordinating of park use.

The Recreation Department offers a wide array of both children and adult athletic type programs. Some programs are offered directly by the Beaver County Recreation Department and others are offered in cooperation with numerous community organizations.

The Complex alone attracted approximately 25,000 program participants during 2001. In addition to these participants, the outdoor park facilities attracted 88 baseball/softball teams/9 ball tournaments, 44 youth basketball teams, dek hockey leagues, numerous tennis tournaments, aquatic programs and various special events. Although this is an impressive program offering, the department might consider implementing more non-athletic programs of interest to all county residents; trips, cooperative ventures, specialized and age specific activities to better serve the Beaver County population.

For programs offered by the Department, they are responsible for the recruitment and hiring of instructors for the tennis, ice arena and swimming facilities. These individuals are paid from program fees either by the hour or a per class basis. Class fees charged are deposited into the County General Fund from which the instructors are paid.

The current participant tracking methods are not adequate. List of programs, attendance, fees collected and/or participant list is not readily available within the department. For the purposes of this study, the department was able to put together the following listings of programs and approximate attendance figures.

Beaver County Recreation Department Program Profile

Beaver County Ice Arena

Skating Director, Lori Pagella

Summer 2001 Profile Classes:

Tiny Tots: Tuesday/Thursdays: 11:15am- 12:00N
Taught by Lori Pagella and Susan Forester
13 children skated on Tuesdays and 12 on
Thursdays
Cost was \$25.00 for 5 lessons
Skate rental not included. (Skate rental is \$1.00)

Group Lessons:

Tuesday/Thursday 1:00pm-2:00pm
Taught by Lori Pagella and/or Megan McLachlan
7 children skated on Tuesdays, 6 skated on
Thursdays
Cost was \$30.00 for 5 lessons
Skate rental not included

Adult Group Lessons:

Tuesday 7:00pm-8:00pm
Taught by Jennifer Vicine and Jacqueline Pusztay
11 Adults skated
Cost was \$30.00 for 5 lessons
Skate rental not included

Specialty Class:

Wednesdays 11:15am-12:00N
Figure Skating class that taught moves in the field,
freestyle, and ice dancing.
Taught by Lori Pagella.
9 skaters participated
Cost was \$25.00 for 5 lessons.

Power Skating Class:

Fridays 11:15am-12:00N.

Figure skaters developed stamina and endurance.
Taught by Lori Pagella and Louella Cavalier.
12 skaters participated
Cost was \$25.00 for 5 lessons

Off-ice Ballet Class:

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11:15am-12:00N
This class enhanced figure skaters' style,
flexibility and strength that helped them on ice.
Class was taught by Doris Singer dance studio
7 participants on Tuesdays, 13 on Thursdays
Cost was \$25.00 for 5 lessons

Freestyle Sessions:

Mondays-Fridays 9:00am-10:00am &
10:00am-11:00am
Offered by the ice arena
These sessions are utilized by the figure skaters
and their coaches for private lessons

Cost is \$6.00 per session

Winter/Spring/Fall 2001/2002 Classes:

The Beaver County Ice Arena offers ice-skating lessons to all ages, levels and ability. The following is a summary of group classes:

Tiny Tots:

Goal is to introduce skating and focus on enjoyment of the sport. Introduces the basic skills to the tots through music, games, fun and easy to learn instruction.

Tuesdays: 9:00am-9:45 am, 2&3 year olds. Taught by Lori Pagella.
10:00am-10:45am, 4,5&6 year olds. Taught by Lori Pagella
Wednesdays: 1:00pm-1:45pm, 2& 3 year olds. Taught by Sue Forester and Stephanie Funk.
2:00pm-2:45pm, 4, 5, & 6 year olds. Taught by Sue Forester and Stephanie Funk.
Thursdays: 9:00am-9:45am, 2& 3 year olds. Taught by Lori Pagella
10:00am-10:45am, 4, 5, & 6 year olds. Taught by Lori Pagella
Fridays: 1:00pm-1:45pm, 2& 3 year olds. Taught by Sue Forester
2:00pm-2:45pm, 4,5, & 6 year olds. Taught by Sue Forester.

Cost is \$25.00 for 5 weeks. Skate rental is \$1.00.

Children's Group Class Lessons:

ISI endorsed group class. Students are able to earn badges through passing test levels. Classes focus on teaching the basic skating skills for the recreational skater.

Wednesdays: 4:45pm-5:45pm, Ages 6-17. Taught by Jackie Putszay and Sara Wingard.
Saturdays: 1:30pm-2:30pm, Ages 6-17. Taught by Megan McLachlan, Jennie Vicine, Stephanie Funk & Susan Krauss. \$30.00 for 5 lessons. Skate rental is \$1.00. Lessons are 5 weeks long.

Adult Group skating lessons:

Fridays 9:00am-10:00am, Ages 18 and up. Taught by Lori Pagella.
Cost is \$30.00 for 5 weeks. Skate rental is \$1.00.

Stick Time:

Offered daily to the hockey players
Players are required to wear full equipment
Sessions cost \$6.00 for an hour

Public Sessions:

Daily from 2:30pm-4:30pm
Sessions are \$3.50 for adults,
\$3.00 for 18 and under

Marianne Watkins Power Skating Class:

Held on alternating Saturdays and Sundays for 5
lessons
Taught by International Power Skating Instructor
Marianne Watkins
Class was divided according to level.
Two levels were Pee Wee and Bantam.
Class cost: \$80.00

Basic Figure skating group Class:

This class is designed to be the next step for the beginning level skater wanting to learn figure skating. Fridays 5:00pm-5:45pm. Taught by Louella Cavalier. Cost is \$25.00 for 5 lessons. Skate rental is \$1.00.

General Programs

Birthday Parties: The Beaver county Ice Arena offers a group skating rate for groups of 10 or more. These parties are set up the Director on public skating sessions. Cake and decorations brought by customers are permitted.

Family Skates: Mondays: 3:30pm-5:30pm family discount rates are offered. 1st child is free with parent. 2nd child is \$2.50. Skate rental is included.

Special Olympics: New Horizon School for the mentally/physically handicapped practice at the arena December/January/February on a daily basis to get ready for the annual Special Olympics competition held in February at the Beaver County Ice Arena.

Froggy skate: The arena hosted a Froggy skate on the same weekend as the Maple Syrup Festival. The Country radio station Froggy 103.5 came and broadcasted the event live. Games were played on the ice and prizes were given out. The event was held on Saturday April 27th.

Spring Exhibition: Our annual exhibition of skating is held in May every year. Soloists, group numbers, a tiny tot review and a bake sale are all part of the ice skating event. The ice arena skating director puts the exhibition together and directs all practice times.

Halloween Skate: a Halloween party was held on Saturday October 27th. Discount rates were given to those who dressed up and prizes were awarded to the best dressed.

Holiday Ice Show: Held December 7th and 8th. This year's theme was an American Christmas. All organizations participated in the show. The coaching staff organized group numbers. There were soloists, a Tot review, adult skating and boutique sales, flower sales, and raffles. The arena skating director put the event together.

The Beaver County Ice Arena has many organizations that purchase ice time. The following is a summary of those organizations and the amount of time they purchase weekly:

- Beaver County Adult Hockey League: 8.5 hours a week.
- Beaver County Amateur Hockey Association: 15.45 hours a week.
- Beaver County Figure Skating Club: 4 hours per week.
- Beaver Hockey Club: 6.5 hours per week.
- Blackhawk Hockey Club: 3.0 hours per week.
- Center Hockey Association: 1.5 hours per week.
- Quigley Hockey Association: 1.5 hours per week.

Old Economy Swimming Pool

The Beaver County Recreation and Tourism Department also provides programming through the County-owned swimming pool in Old Economy Park. The following is information related to the pool's 2001 and 2002 seasons.

Opening Day: Memorial Day Weekend
 Closing Day: Labor Day Weekend
 Daily Hours: 11 AM-8 PM
 Daily Admission: \$ 3.00 (ages 6-54)
 \$ 2.00 (55 and over)
 Passes: \$35.00 (ages 6-54)
 \$30.00 (55 and over)
 \$75.00 (Family of 4)
 \$ 10.00 (additional for
 more than 4)

Programs: Certification for Lifeguards
 First Aid Training
 CPR Training
 Tiny Tots Swim Lessons
 Children's Swim Lessons
 Adults Swim Lessons
 Night Swims (8 PM- 10 PM)
 Diving Lessons (for 2002)
 Water Aerobics (for 2002)

Cooperation Recreation Programming with Community Organizations

The Beaver County Recreation Department coordinates with approximately 25 community organizations by making its sports facilities available for community use. Below is a listing of organizations and/or programs that utilized County facilities in 2001 and approximate attendance figures for the Brady's Run Baseball/Softball Complex.

Baseball

North-South Baseball League-12 Teams
 30 and Over Baseball League-16 Teams
 North-South All-Star Game
 30 and Over All-Star Game

Softball

Beaver County Men's League-10 Teams
 Beaver County Women's League-6 Teams
 Beaver County Co-ed League- 18 Teams
 Beaver County Sunday League-12 Teams
 United Softball League-14 Teams
 Beaver County Fast-Pitch League
 Hussey Copper Softball Tournament
 Beaver County Fast-Pitch Tournament
 Beaver County Men's, Memorial Weekend
 Tournament
 Beaver County July 4th Tournament
 Center Girls Fast-Pitch Tournament
 RPS Softball Tournament
 Community College Of Beaver County Women's,
 Softball
 Penn State Beaver Campus Women's Softball
 NJCAA Women's Softball Divisional Play-offs

Basketball

22 5th Grade Teams
 22 6th Grade Teams

Tennis

Pee-Wee Group Lessons
 Junior Beginning Lessons
 Junior Intermediate Lessons
 Adult Beginning Lessons

Adult Intermediate Lessons
 Beaver County High Schools Clinics
 Adult Clinics
 Junior Tennis Camp
 Adult Tennis Camp
 Beaver County High Schools Tennis Conditioning
 Adult Tennis Conditioning
 Women's Doubles Leagues
 Women's Singles Leagues
 Men's Doubles Leagues
 Men's Singles Leagues
 Senior Citizen Leagues
 Professional Events/Clinics
 Social Tennis Events
 Inter-Club Competition
 Midwestern Athletic Conference Boys and Girls
 Tournaments
 WPIAL Girls Section Singles
 WPIAL Girls Section Doubles
 WPIAL Boys Section Singles
 WPIAL Boys Section Doubles
 Geneva College Women's Home Matches
 Geneva College Men's Home Matches
 Geneva College Division Tournament
 Robert Morris Division Tournament
 Community College of Beaver County Home
 Matches
 Community College of Beaver County NJCAA
 Division Tournament

Special Events

Snow Shovel Riding Contest
 RPS Flag Football Tournament

Dek Hockey Outdoor Arena
Fall Adult League

Outdoor Basketball Courts
Summer Children's Basketball Clinic
Summer Children's Basketball League

Future Programming
5K and 10K Walks and Runs
Walking Club (both indoor and outdoor year round)
Adult Basketball League (30 and over)
3 on 3 Tournament

Softball Tournaments, 2001

Lifesteps Early Bird Tournament
Saturday, April 28
All Fields
Rain Date, May 5
Girls Fast Pitch
Saturday, Sunday & Monday,
May 26,27,28
All Fields

Summer Adult League
Girls Fast Pitch
Saturday & Sunday,
June 9, 10
All Fields
Girls Fast Pitch
Saturday, Sunday, Monday,
June 30, July 19
All Fields
Christian Assembly Tournament
Saturday, August 4
All Fields
Beaver County Christian School
Monday, May 14
8 am to 5 pm
All Fields
Hussey Copper Tournament
Saturday, August 18
All Day
All Fields
Beaver County Christian League

Beaver County also provides and/or accommodates the following:

Field preparation:

Geneva Women's Intercollegiate Softball
Beaver Area Varsity Baseball Team

Leagues that occur from September 1-30, 2000:

Beaver County Co-ed Softball League
Beaver County 30 & over Baseball League

Brady's Run Baseball/Softball Complex

2000 Attendance

May 1 through August 31, 2000

Day	Baseball	Softball	Players	Spectators
Monday	x	x	150-200	200-400
Tuesday	x	x	150-200	200-400
Wednesday	x	x	150-200	200-400
Thursday	x	x	150-200	200-400
Friday	x	x	150-200	200-400
Saturday	x	x	300-500	300-500
Sunday	x	x	600-700	500-800
Tournaments				
Saturday	x	x	400-800	500-1000
Sunday	x	x	400-800	500-1000

A number of festivals and events are also held within the County, including:

Maple Syrup Festival

Brady's Run Park
Brighton Township

Fort McIntosh Garrison Days
Beaver Borough

Nationality Days

Ambridge Borough

Greek Food Festival

Aliquippa City

Beaver County Airshow

Beaver County Airport

Village Family Festival

Old Economy Village
Ambridge Borough

Beaver County Riverfest

Rochester Borough

San Rocco Festa

Aliquippa City

Beaver Festival

Beaver Borough

Vicary Days

Vicary Mansion
Freedom Borough

Big Knob Grange Fair

New Sewickley Township

Hookstown Fair

Hookstown Borough

Candlelight Christmas

Old Economy Village
Ambridge Borough

Erntefest Harvest Festival

Old Economy Village
Ambridge Borough

Civil War Weekend

Brush Creek County Park
North Sewickley Township

Heritage Days

Homewood Borough

Holiday on Ice

Ice Arena, Brady's Run County Park
Brighton Township

Lapic Winefest

Daugherty Township

Snow Shovel Riding Contest

Old Economy Park
Economy Borough

American Indian Gathering

Community College of Beaver County
Center Township

Universal Soldiers and Pioneer Days

Raccoon Creek State Park
Hanover Township

Festival of Trees

Brady's Run County Park
Brighton Township

Analysis of Comprehensive Program Offerings

There are a wide variety of recreational programs offered by a host of different agencies within the County. The County's role has been 1) to support and/or supplemented programming offered others, 2) to provide specific programming that is related to County-owned facilities, 3) to publicize special events through the tourism newsletter, and, 4) to provide use of County facilities to communities and organizations.

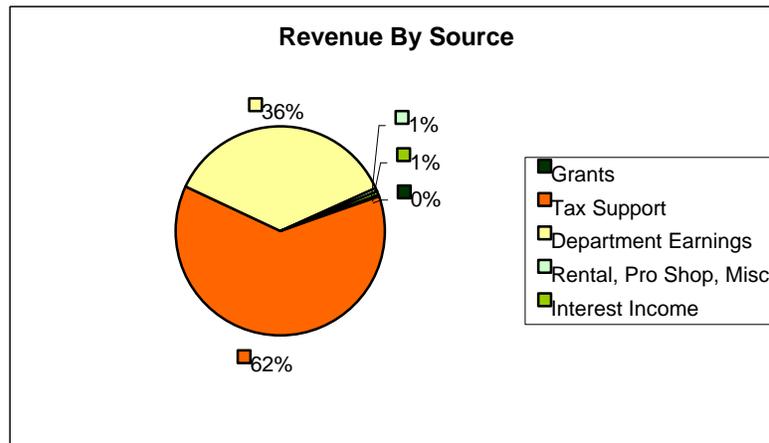
The County does a very good job with the programming it provides and in its efforts to support sports programming and special events in County parks. However, it seems that the majority of programming provided includes either sports programs or special events. There is a void of arts and cultural programs, and nature/environmental programming. These are certainly areas that would be appropriate for the County to

consider ways to improve. The County could maintain the role of supporting other groups by encouraging county/community organizations to offering programming and special events within the County parks.

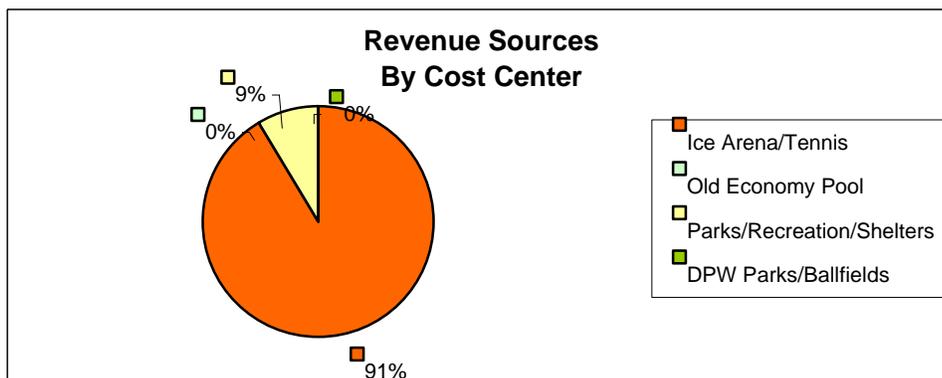
Section 1.7 FINANCING

As part of this study, an analysis was conducted of the County’s financing of parks and recreation. This analysis included a review of major sources of income, a five-year comparison of revenues and expenses, a comparison of Beaver County’s parks and recreation expenses with those of other similar Counties, and a five-year review of capital expenditures for parks and recreation.

There are only two major sources of revenue for parks and recreation. They are 1) fees and charges (classified as department earnings in the budget), and 2) tax support from the County’s General Fund. The budgets show three additional sources of much lower levels of income including interest income, grants, and miscellaneous.



Financing for Beaver County parks and recreation is tracked in the County’s General Fund by six cost centers. They are the Ice Arena, Tennis Facility, Old Economy Swimming Pool, Parks/Shelters/Recreation, Public Works Parks Maintenance, and Public Works Ballfield Maintenance. For purposes of revenue comparisons some cost centers were combined in the chart below. A comparison of revenue by cost center shows that the ice arena/tennis center (Recreation Facility) are by far the largest producers of revenue.



Even though the County has the capability to track all revenues and expenses for all cost centers, they have determined that it is not cost efficient to do so. Instead, tracking is done by cost center for revenues and expenses that are related solely to that cost center. They do not go to a level of detail that costs out items such as Public Works staff time, insurance, staff time from other departments, etc. Therefore, it is difficult to get a clear picture of how much the County is actually spending on parks and recreation.

Additionally, accounts for program revenues and expenses are not set up to compare the two to determine if a particular program is covering expenses. There is therefore no means of accurately establishing fees for programs or facility use based on cost. Fees are often set without regard to what a program or facility actually costs to operate. In most cases that means that fees are much lower than actual costs.

It has been the general philosophy of the County to subsidize the operation of County programs and facilities. Yet without an accurate financial tracking system, it is not clear to what extent the County is doing that. Analysis conducted by the consultant indicates that there is a great inequity in the way that fees are levied. In some cases, fees only cover a small portion of expenses, while in other cases fees cover a majority of expenses.

Because of the system, it is difficult to make recommendations as to the viability of most programs and facilities. It would be appropriate for the County to implement a financial plan that addresses such issues as expected percent of cost recovery for all programs and facilities, types of programs or facilities that should be subsidized, expected levels of subsidy, and identification of both direct and indirect costs. This would assist in making sound financial decisions concerning the viability of programs and facilities.

The following charts provide a detailed review of the County's finances as they relate to parks and recreation.

Cost Recovery

Cost recovery is the amount of income produced within a cost center to offset expenses. It is important to understand the cost recovery of individual cost centers as well as total cost recovery. These figures should help the County to determine the amount of tax support required for specific facilities and programs.

Cost Center	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	5yr. Inc/Dec	% Inc/Dec	Annual Average
Ice Arena/Tennis								
Revenue	\$358,141	\$344,306	\$333,993	\$302,340	\$307,718	-\$50,423	-14.08%	\$329,300
Expense	\$306,367	\$361,577	\$356,863	\$460,393	\$595,493	\$289,126	94.37%	\$416,139
Net	\$51,774	-\$17,271	-\$22,870	-\$158,053	-\$287,775	-\$339,549		-\$86,839
Cost Recovery %	116.90%	95.22%	93.59%	65.67%	51.67%			79.13%
Old Economy Pool								
Revenue	\$9,890	\$652	\$8,009	\$895	\$137	-\$9,753	-98.61%	\$3,917
Expense	\$33,468	\$33,068	\$27,955	\$40,648	\$34,030	\$562	1.68%	\$33,834
Net	-\$23,578	-\$32,416	-\$19,946	-\$39,753	-\$33,893	-\$10,315		-\$29,917
Cost Recovery %	29.55%	1.97%	28.65%	2.20%	0.40%			11.58%
Parks/Recreation/Shelters								
Revenue	\$36,193	\$36,270	\$27,421	\$36,608	\$28,842	-\$7,351	-20.31%	\$33,067
Expense	\$96,400	\$89,728	\$109,319	\$89,360	\$117,342	\$20,942	21.72%	\$100,430
Net	-\$60,207	-\$53,458	-\$81,898	-\$52,752	-\$88,500	-\$28,293		-\$67,363
Cost Recovery %	37.54%	40.42%	25.08%	40.97%	24.58%			32.93%
DPW Parks								
Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,000	\$0	\$0	0.00%	\$600
Parks Expense	\$95,020	\$110,386	\$123,072	\$135,215	\$136,067	\$41,047	43.20%	\$119,952
Ballfield Expense	\$148	\$0	\$0	\$18,291	\$13,513	\$13,365	9030.41%	\$6,390
Total Expense	\$95,168	\$110,386	\$123,072	\$153,506	\$149,580	\$54,412	57.17%	\$126,342
Net	-\$95,168	-\$110,386	-\$123,072	-\$150,506	-\$149,580	-\$54,412		-\$119,952
Cost Recovery %	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	1.95%	0.00%			5.06%
Total Revenue	\$404,224	\$381,228	\$369,423	\$342,843	\$336,697	-\$67,527	-16.71%	\$366,883
Total Expense	\$531,403	\$594,759	\$617,209	\$743,907	\$896,445	\$365,042	68.69%	\$676,745
Total Net	-\$127,179	-\$213,531	-\$247,786	-\$401,064	-\$559,748	-\$432,569		-\$309,862
Total County Tax \$ Used for Parks and Recreation	\$127,179	\$213,531	\$247,786	\$401,064	\$559,748	\$432,569	340.13%	\$309,862

Detailed Revenue and Expense

A detailed cost analysis helps to understand the history of revenue and expense, evaluate trends, and determine significant changes in specific categories. The following charts detail revenue and expense (only from General Fund Budget) by cost center and as a whole.

Ice Arena/Tennis Complex							
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	Inc/Dec	% Change
Revenue							
Grants	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,893	\$1,328	\$1,328	100.00%
Department Earnings	\$358,141	\$344,306	\$331,951	\$295,964	\$304,603	-\$53,538	-14.95%
Rental, Pro Shop, Misc	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.00%
Interest Income	\$0	\$0	\$2,042	\$4,483	\$1,787	\$1,787	100.00%
Total Revenue	\$358,141	\$344,306	\$333,993	\$302,340	\$307,718	-\$50,423	-14.08%
Expense							
Wages and Salaries	\$115,401	\$144,718	\$163,812	\$195,108	\$267,714	\$152,313	131.99%
Fringe Benefits	\$42,785	\$53,603	\$42,759	\$52,019	\$65,832	\$23,047	53.87%
Misc. Personnel	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$4,061	\$4,061	100.00%
Occupancy	\$128,651	\$129,931	\$126,049	\$160,405	\$195,776	\$67,125	52.18%
Communication	\$4,939	\$4,384	\$4,887	\$5,093	\$6,932	\$1,993	40.35%
Supplies and Minor Equipment	\$5,334	\$8,541	\$9,040	\$20,733	\$29,386	\$24,052	450.92%
Transportation	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.00%
Consultant/Contracted Services	\$2,151	\$5,274	\$2,393	\$0	\$0	-\$2,151	-100.00%
Other Expenses	\$7,106	\$10,474	\$6,242	\$10,290	\$11,401	\$4,295	60.44%
Capital Outlay	\$0	\$2,860	\$505	\$7,998	\$14,049	\$14,049	100.00%
Minor Equipment	\$0	\$1,792	\$1,176	\$7,697	\$0	\$0	100.00%
Grant Expense	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,050	\$342	\$342	100.00%
Total Expense	\$306,367	\$361,577	\$356,863	\$460,393	\$595,493	\$289,126	94.37%
Net Income vs. Expense	\$51,774	-\$17,271	-\$22,870	-\$158,053	-\$287,775		
Cost Recovery %	116.90%	95.22%	93.59%	65.67%	51.67%		

* Additional capital expenditures from other sources.

Old Economy Pool							
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	Inc/Dec	% Change
Revenue							
Department Earnings	\$9,890	\$652	\$7,576	\$384	\$0	-\$9,890	-100.00%
Interest Income	\$0	\$0	\$433	\$511	\$137	\$137	100.00%
Total Revenue	\$9,890	\$652	\$8,009	\$895	\$137	-\$9,753	-98.61%
Expense							
Wages and Salaries	\$12,958	\$14,040	\$12,306	\$0	\$0	-\$12,958	-100.00%
Fringe Benefits	\$1,598	\$1,355	\$1,106	\$0	\$0	-\$1,598	-100.00%
Occupancy	\$9,090	\$10,396	\$6,167	\$15,807	\$14,798	\$5,708	62.79%
Communication	\$703	\$503	\$637	\$673	\$819	\$116	16.50%
Supplies and Equipment	\$2,059	\$245	\$1,108	\$3,340	\$5,792	\$3,733	181.30%
Transportation	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Consultant/Contractoed Labor	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$12,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	100.00%
Other Expenses	\$7,060	\$6,189	\$6,631	\$3,831	\$2,621	-\$4,439	-62.88%
Capital Outlay	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$4,635	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Minor Equipment	\$0	\$340	\$0	\$362	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Total Expense	\$33,468	\$33,068	\$27,955	\$40,648	\$34,030	\$562	
Net Income vs. Expense	-\$23,578	-\$32,416	-\$19,946	-\$39,753	-\$33,893	-\$10,315	
Cost Recovery %	29.55%	1.97%	28.65%	2.20%	0.40%		

Parks/Recreation/Shelters							
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	Inc/Dec	% Change
Revenue							
Program Revenue	\$26,743	\$27,270	\$22,071	\$19,030	\$19,736	-\$7,007	-26.20%
Rental Income	\$9,450	\$9,000	\$5,350	\$7,208	\$5,400	-\$4,050	-42.86%
Interest Income	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$12,370	\$3,706	\$3,706	100.00%
Total Revenue	\$36,193	\$36,270	\$27,421	\$38,608	\$28,842	-\$7,351	-20.31%
Expense							
Wages and Salaries	\$65,446	\$62,442	\$66,500	\$55,948	\$76,837	\$11,391	17.41%
Fringe Benefits	\$19,576	\$17,603	\$16,278	\$16,616	\$22,536	\$2,960	15.12%
Occupancy	\$1,387	\$235	\$2,175	\$1,533	\$3,333	\$1,946	140.30%
Communication	\$1,651	\$4,758	\$4,681	\$4,512	\$5,198	\$3,547	214.84%
Supplies and Equipment	\$4,897	\$1,511	\$5,712	\$6,512	\$3,869	-\$1,028	-20.99%
Transportation	\$2,058	\$1,779	\$1,177	\$1,251	\$1,135	-\$923	-44.85%
Consultant/Contractoed Labor	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Other Expenses	\$1,385	\$960	\$5,134	\$1,988	\$4,434	\$3,049	220.14%
Capital Outlay	\$0	\$0	\$7,662	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Minor Equipment	\$0	\$440	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Total Expense	\$96,400	\$89,728	\$109,319	\$88,360	\$117,342	\$20,942	21.72%
Net Income vs. Expense	-\$60,207	-\$53,458	-\$81,898	-\$49,752	-\$88,500		
Cost Recovery %	37.54%	40.42%	25.08%	43.69%	24.58%		

DPW Parks							
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	Inc/Dec	% Change
Revenue							
Miscellaneous Income	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,000	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Interest Income	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Total Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,000	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Expense							
Wages and Salaries	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Fringe Benefits	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Occupancy	\$31,491	\$28,829	\$33,774	\$29,705	\$27,170	-\$4,321	-13.72%
Communication	\$3,241	\$4,327	\$4,547	\$5,647	\$5,485	\$2,244	69.24%
Supplies and Equipment	\$51,611	\$66,982	\$63,346	\$78,728	\$73,925	\$22,314	43.23%
Transportation	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Consultant/Contractoed Labor	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Other Expenses	\$8,677	\$10,248	\$19,840	\$21,135	\$29,487	\$20,810	239.83%
Capital Outlay	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Minor Equipment	\$0	\$0	\$1,565	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Total Expense	\$95,020	\$110,386	\$123,072	\$135,215	\$136,067	\$41,047	43.20%
Net Income vs. Expense	-\$95,020	-\$110,386	-\$123,072	-\$132,215	-\$136,067		
Cost Recovery %	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	2.22%	0.00%		

DPW Ballfields							
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	Inc/Dec	% Change
Revenue							
Miscellaneous Income	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Interest Income	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Total Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Expense							
Wages and Salaries	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$8,202	\$4,704	\$4,704	0.00%
Fringe Benefits	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$849	\$551	\$551	0.00%
Occupancy	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,274	\$1,275	\$1,275	100.00%
Communication	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Supplies and Equipment	\$55	\$0	\$0	\$1,510	\$2,506	\$2,451	4456.36%
Transportation	\$93	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	-\$93	0.00%
Consultant/Contractoed Labor	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Other Expenses	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$6,456	\$4,477	\$4,477	100.00%
Capital Outlay	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Minor Equipment	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Total Expense	\$148	\$0	\$0	\$18,291	\$13,513	\$13,365	9030.41%
Net Income vs. Expense	-\$148	\$0	\$0	-\$18,291	-\$13,513		
Cost Recovery %	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%		

Comparison to Counties of Similar Size and Nature in Pennsylvania 1999 Per Capita Expenditures and Percent of Total Operating Budget

The following charts show how Beaver County ranks with other Pennsylvania counties that are similar. It should be noted that Counties across the Commonwealth vary dramatically in their provision of parks and recreation services. While an effort was made to compare to Counties that are similar in nature to Beaver County, there may still be differences. There may also be some discrepancies in the ways that Counties report their income and expenses to the PA Department of Community and Economic Development. Therefore, while this data provides information for comparison, it should be further investigated prior to using it as a tool to justify significant changes, as recordkeeping and procedures vary among counties.

Municipality and County	2000 Population	Total Municipal Expenditures	Parks and Recreation Operating Expenditures	Per Capita Expenditures	Percent of Total
Washington County	202,897	\$81,570,536	\$101,850	\$0.50	0.12%
Cambria County	152,598	\$107,237,113	\$315,498	\$2.07	0.29%
Cumberland County	213,674	\$73,697,536	\$505,564	\$2.37	0.69%
Beaver County*	181,412	\$163,859,686	\$433,927	\$2.39	0.26%
Butler County	174,083	\$91,415,860	\$575,872	\$3.31	0.63%
Average	184,933	103,556,146	386,542	\$2.13	0.40%

Source: PA DCED (Department of Community and Economic Development) Local Government Reporting Website
Beaver County figures in this chart may vary from those in other sections of this report. Numbers used in this chart are figures reported by the County to DCED in 1999.

Analysis of 1999 Per Capita Operating Expenses Parks and Recreation Departments Counties of Similar Size and Nature

Measure	Community	Population	Per Capita Expense
Mean		184,933	\$2.13
Median	Cumberland County	213,674	\$2.37
High	Butler County	202,897	\$3.31
Low	Washington County	202,897	\$0.50
	Beaver County*	181,412	\$3.31
Comparison to Beaver County	# Greater than Beaver County	2	1
	# Less than Beaver County	2	3

Financial Observations and Comments

The following observations and comments are made based on the previous charts and discussions with the Recreation Director, Director of Public Works, and the Fiscal Manager.

Brady’s Run Park Recreation Facility

- ✓ Department Earnings (Fees and Charges) were down by nearly 15% from 1996– 2000.
- ✓ The percent of costs recovered by revenues has average 79% per year, but has continually decreased in each of the past five years to 51.76% in 2000.
- ✓ In 1996 revenues exceeded expense by over \$50,000. By 2000, expenses exceed revenue by \$287,775.
- ✓ Wages and salaries have increased by \$152,313 (132%) from 1996 to 2000.
- ✓ Supplies and equipment expenses have increased by 450% over the past five years.

Old Economy Pool

- ✓ In 1999 and 2000 the County contracted out the management of the pool paying \$12,000 and \$10,000 per year respectively.
- ✓ Over the past five years the net loss at the pool has averaged \$29,917 per year.
- ✓ Revenues were down dramatically at the pool in 1997 due to poor weather conditions and a mechanical failure that closed the pool for most of the summer.

Parks/Recreation/Shelters

- ✓ Program revenue has decrease by \$7,007 (26%) from 1996 to 2000.
- ✓ Rental revenue has decreased by \$4,050 (43%) from 1996 to 2000.
- ✓ Total revenue has decreased by 20% while total expenses have increased by 22% during the five-year period.

DPW Parks and Ballfields

- ✓ In 1999 a new cost center was created for Ballfields to allow for separated tracking of expenses.
- ✓ Total Expenses for Parks increased by \$41,047 (43%) from 1996 to 2000. Most of the increase was classified in Supplies and Equipment and Other Expenses.

General

- ✓ The County spent \$559,748 on parks and recreation in 2000.
- ✓ Tax dollars spent on parks and recreation increase by \$432,569 from 1996 to 2000.
- ✓ Time spent in the County Parks by the Department of Public Works is not tracked in the budget. The Director of Public Works estimates that approximately \$300,000 is spent on manpower wages in the County Parks annually.

Capital Budget

The County does not use a capital improvements plan. With the exception of Brady's Run Park Recreation Facility, little capital money has been invested in major upgrades in the parks in recent years. From 1996 to 2000, a total of \$37,709 was spent on capital improvements for parks and recreation. Of that, \$25,412 was spent at the Brady's Run Park Recreation Facility, \$4,635 at Old Economy Pool, and \$7,662 on park shelters.

There is no annual appropriation of capital dollars in the County budget. The County Commissioners can allocate capital expenses at any time, on an as-needed basis.

The lack of a long-range capital plan is evidenced by the condition of the County parks major facilities. Play equipment, roads, overhead electric lines, and other capital items have not been repaired or replaced on any schedule in recent years.

*Beaver County Comprehensive Recreation
and Parks Plan*

Chapter 2: The County Parks

Section 2.1

THE COUNTY PARKS

Currently, the County owns four parks: Brady’s Run, Brush Creek, Old Economy, and Buttermilk Falls. All four of the County Parks are considered regional facilities. Though each park has its own unique identity, their diverse recreational offerings unite them in this category. To fulfill the goals of this Plan, Pashek Associates inventoried and analyzed each of the County Parks. This inventory included detailed inspections of all park facilities including all structures, play equipment, sports fields and courts, restrooms, parking, signage, and open spaces. This chapter provides an introduction to each of the four County Parks, a portion of the detailed findings and recommendations, information on playground safety issues, as well as a description of how they function spatially within the County

On-site discussions with management personnel as well as a visual inspection each of the parks provided the in-depth inventory and analysis information included in this chapter. Please see the plans at the end of each park section for the graphic of the respective park’s existing facilities and features.

Facilities

Each facility within each park was examined to determine its size, accessibility, associated parking, utilities available, and general overall condition. General conditions are graded on a poor-fair-good scale. A poor conditional rating is representative of an abandoned or generally unusable facility. It may also note a facility that exhibits numerous threats to user safety. A fair conditional rating signifies that a facility is generally acceptable visually, structurally, and to a user’s safety, though it may possess a few problems. It should be noted that “fair” facilities are often close to being rated as “poor” facilities. Therefore, preventative maintenance to fair-rated facilities upon completing upgrades to poor-rated facilities is important. A good conditional rating denotes that a facility is in good repair and generally poses no threat to the user’s safety. Please see “Comments” within facility inventory tables for each park for additional explanation of the rating given.



Section 2.2

BUTTERMILK FALLS PARK

Off of Route 18, in Homewood Borough.

Buttermilk Falls Natural Area, approximately 9 acres sited in previously undeveloped woodland, takes advantage of existing natural resources to create a park that provides visitors the opportunity to enjoy the natural environment. The main focus of the park is its namesake, Buttermilk Falls, a 30' waterfall. Two separate trails have been constructed, both ending at waterfall overlooks. In addition, the site design provides the opportunity to host local community events in natural amphitheater spaces created in abandoned sandstone quarrying areas.

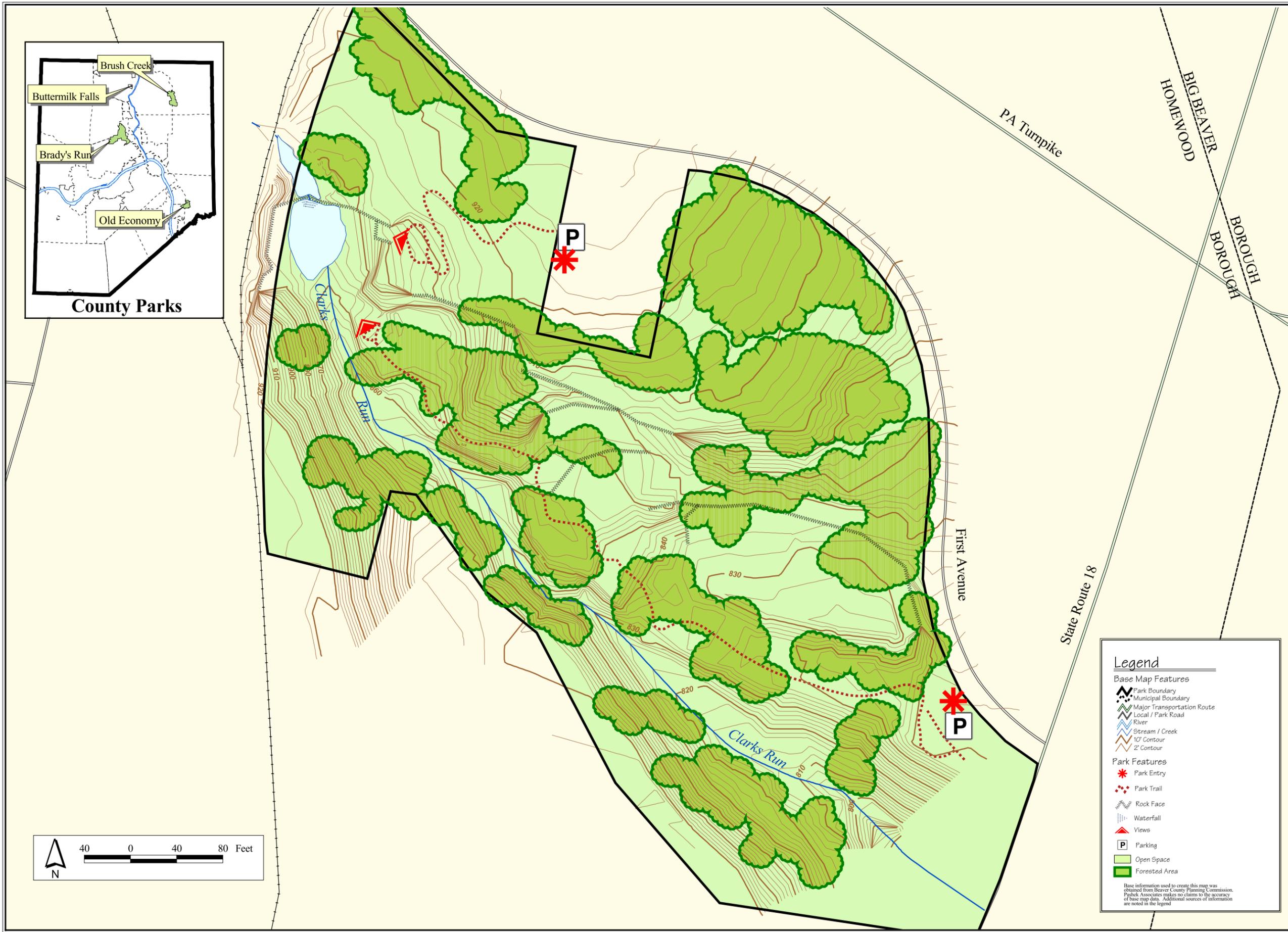
Table 2.3.1: Inventory of Facilities at Buttermilk Falls Park

Facility	Condition	Size/Qty.	ADA Acces-sible?	Utilities	Comments
Trails	Good	2 (less than 1/4 miles)	Y	-	
Parking Area 1	Good	6 spaces	Y	-	
Parking Area 2	Fair	12 spaces	Y	-	Shared with local church
Benches	Good	8	N	-	

Legend (Utilities)

- OE = overhead electric
- E = electric
- W = water
- S = sewer
- T = telephone

**Beaver County, Pennsylvania
Comprehensive Recreation & Parks Plan
Buttermilk Falls County Park**



Base information used to create this map was obtained from Beaver County Planning Commission. Pashek Associates makes no claims to the accuracy of base map data. Additional sources of information are noted in the legend.

Section 2.3

OLD ECONOMY PARK

Located off of Route 989 (Ridge Road), in Economy Borough and Harmony Township.

Old Economy facilities at a glance...

Facility	Total Quantity
Structures (Enclosed)	3
Pavilions/Shelters w/tables	6
Restrooms	6 sets
Ballfields	1
Basketball Courts	1 (half)
Tennis Courts	2
Parking Areas	5
Swing sets	6
Slides	3
See-saws	7
Climbers	1
Horseshoes Areas	2
Pools	1
Grills	9
Water Spigots	2

Offering nearly 400 acres of parkland, Old Economy Park in Economy Borough, is unique in character among the other three County Parks in that it is located in a less rural area. Also, the core of Old Economy Park is structured around active recreational facilities. The park is open from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 p.m., from Memorial Day through Labor Day. The heart of the park contains the pool, its associated large parking lot, a large barn and parking lot, a baseball field, and a new, smaller shelter. To the south and east of the pool is the enclosed Corn Crib, popular with Boy and Girl Scout groups, Shelter 2, and Shelter 1, along with associated parking spaces, grills, and play equipment. To the west of the pool is the Silver Mine shelter area, with pavilions 1 and 2, grills, and play equipment. The Legionville Trail connects to this area to the

terminus of the park road that passes the Orchard Shelter and tennis courts, to the northwest of the barn area. A park maintenance facility is located along Hemmerle Road, south of the park area.

Old Economy County Park is seemingly a more active recreational area, particularly due to its large pool facility, and surrounding residential neighborhoods. The most recognized event held at Old Economy County Park is the annual Snow Shovel Riding Championship, in January.

Table 2.3.1: Inventory of Facilities at Old Economy Park

Facility	Condition	Size/Qty.	ADA Acces-sible	Parking	Utilities	Comments
First Aid & Police Bldg.	Poor	8 x 18	N	Gravel		Not used
Barn	Good	25 x 78	Y	Gravel	OE, W, S, T	Cap.250-300, Refridge., stove, grill
Ballfield	Poor		N			New Backstop
Swings	Fair	1 Bay	N			2 seat, no surfacing
See-Saw	Fair	2	N			2, no surfacing
Horseshoes	Poor	2 sets	N			Caved-in, overgrown
Swings	Fair	1 Bay	N			3 tot seats, no surfacing
½ Court Basketball	Poor		N			Deteriorated concrete
Parking Lot	Good	67 x 350	Y	51 spaces, 2 handicapped		(lined spaces) parallel & 90 degree
Pool	Fair	L shaped 42 x 84	N		E, W, S, T	220,000 gallon
Pavilion	Good	12 x 20	Y			Newer
Corn Crib	Fair	18 x 20	N		E	Enclosed
BBQ Grills	Fair	2				
Swings	Fair	1 Bay	N			1 tot + 1, no surfacing
Climber	Fair	1	N			No surfacing
Water Spigot	Fair	1	N			
Restrooms	Fair	15 x 15	N		E, W	Pit Toilets, women & men

Facility	Condition	Size/Qty.	ADA Acces-sible	Parking	Utilities	Comments
Shelter #2	Good	17 x 36	Y	20 x 20 gravel		Open, 75 cap
Shelter #1	Good	17 x 36	Y	None articulated	E	Open, 14 tables stored, 75 cap
Swings	Fair	1 Bay	N			1 tot + 1, no surfacing
BBQ Grills	Fair	2				1 in disrepair
Restrooms	Fair	2 Separate	N			Pit Toilets
Water Spigot	Good	1				
BBQ Grill	Fair	1	N			On way to Silver mines
Silver mines #2	Good	17 x 36	Y	20 x 20 gravel	E	Open, 15 stored, 75 cap
Restrooms	Fair	15 x 15	N		E, W	Pit Toilets, women & men
BBQ Grills	Fair	2				
Slide	Fair	1, 6.5' high	N			No surfacing
Swings	Fair	2 Bay	N			1 tot + 3, no surfacing
See-Saw	Fair	3	N			No surfacing
Silver mines #1	Good	17 x 36	Y	Not articulated	E	Open, 16 tables, 75 cap
Restrooms	Fair	2 Separate	N			Pit Toilets
BBQ Grills	Fair	2	Y			
Swings	Fair	2 Bay	N			1 tot + 3, no surfacing
Slide	Fair	1, 6' high	N			No surfacing
Orchard Shelter	Good	17' x 36'	Y	No	E, W	
Slide	Fair	1	N			No surfacing
See-Saw	Fair	2	N			No surfacing
Swings	Fair	1 bay	N			No surfacing
Restrooms	Fair	2 separate	N		E, W	
Tennis Courts	Fair	2 standard	N			Indoor/outdoor carpet
Concrete Slab	Poor	20' x 40'	N			

Playground Safety Audit Recommendations

General Recommendations (for all play equipment)

- r Maintain organic protective surface depth of 12" for all structures.
- r Repaint all equipment that has been chipped or is rusting.
- r Eliminate protrusions by reducing protruding bolts so that no more than two threads are visible.
- r Reverse bolts so that nut is on the bottom of all vertical bolt installations to eliminate vertical protrusions.

Specific Recommendations

1. Play Area at the Barn

Inspected 04/10/02

Comments:

It appears that the playground is composed of *outdated equipment*.

See-saw fails numerous safety standards including; pinch, crush, or shear points, no protective rubber between seat and ground, lack of safety surfacing, and protrusions, and should be removed and replaced.

Recommendations:

Both swings: the swing seats contain numerous safety hazards including: open “S” rings, hard-hitting devices, and hand or foot entrapment areas, and should be removed and replaced with swing seats that meet current safety standards.

Swing #1: adjust swing hangars so there are only 2 sets per bay.

Swing #2: inadequate use zone due to proximity of hillside, relocate swing to provide for an adequate use zone

2. Play Area at the Corn Crib

Inspected 04/10/02

Comments:

It appears that the playground is composed of *outdated equipment*.

Climber fails numerous safety tests including: accessible equipment height, lack of protective barriers, lack of safety surfacing, no safe way to descend equipment, and should be removed and replaced.

Swing fails numerous safety tests including: maximum height of crossbar, bent support, open “S” hooks, lack of safety surfacing, and protrusions, and should be removed and replaced.

Slide fails numerous safety tests including: inadequate exit zone, transition platform, and safety barriers, lack of safety surfacing, protrusions, and head entrapment areas, and should be removed and replaced.

3. Play Area at Shelter #1

Inspected 04/10/02

Comments:

It appears that the playground is composed of *outdated equipment*.

Recommendations:

Swing seat: close open “S” hooks to meet current safety standards.

Swing: remove tree or relocate swing to provide for an adequate use zone.

4. Play Area at the Tennis Courts

Inspected 04/10/02

Comments:

It appears that the playground is composed of *outdated equipment*.

See-saw fails numerous safety tests including; pinch, crush, or shear points, no protective rubber between seat and ground, and lack of safety surfacing, and should be removed and replaced.

Slide fails numerous safety tests including: height of slide, inadequate transition platform and safety

barriers, lack of safety surfacing, and head entrapment areas and should be removed and replaced.

Swing fails numerous safety tests including; maximum height of crossbar, open “S” hooks, hard hitting swings, lack of safety surfacing, and protrusions, and should be removed and replaced.

5. Play Area at the Silver Mines Shelter #1

Inspected 04/10/02

Comments:

It appears that the playground is composed of *outdated equipment*.

See-saw fails numerous safety standards including: pinch, crush, or shear points, no protective rubber between seat and ground, inadequate use zone, lack of safety surfacing, and protrusions, and should be removed and replaced.

Swing fails numerous safety tests including: maximum height of crossbar, inadequate use zone, open “S” hooks, hard hitting devices, hand or foot entrapments, lack of safety surfacing, and protrusions, and should be removed and replaced.

Recommendations:

Slide: the transition platform does not meet minimum 22” standard, replace with piece that meets current safety standards.

Slide: safety barriers at the top of the slide do not meet standards, replace with pieces that meet current safety standards.

Slide: ladder handrail contains head entrapment area, replace with pieces that meet current safety standards.

6. Play Area at the Silver Mines Shelter #2

Inspected 04/10/02

Comments:

It appears that the playground is composed of *outdated equipment*.

See-saw fails numerous safety standards including; pinch, crush, or shear points, no protective rubber between seat and ground, inadequate use zone, lack of safety surfacing, and protrusions, and should be removed and replaced.

Recommendations:

Slide: the transition platform does not meet minimum 22” standard, replace with piece that meets current safety standards.

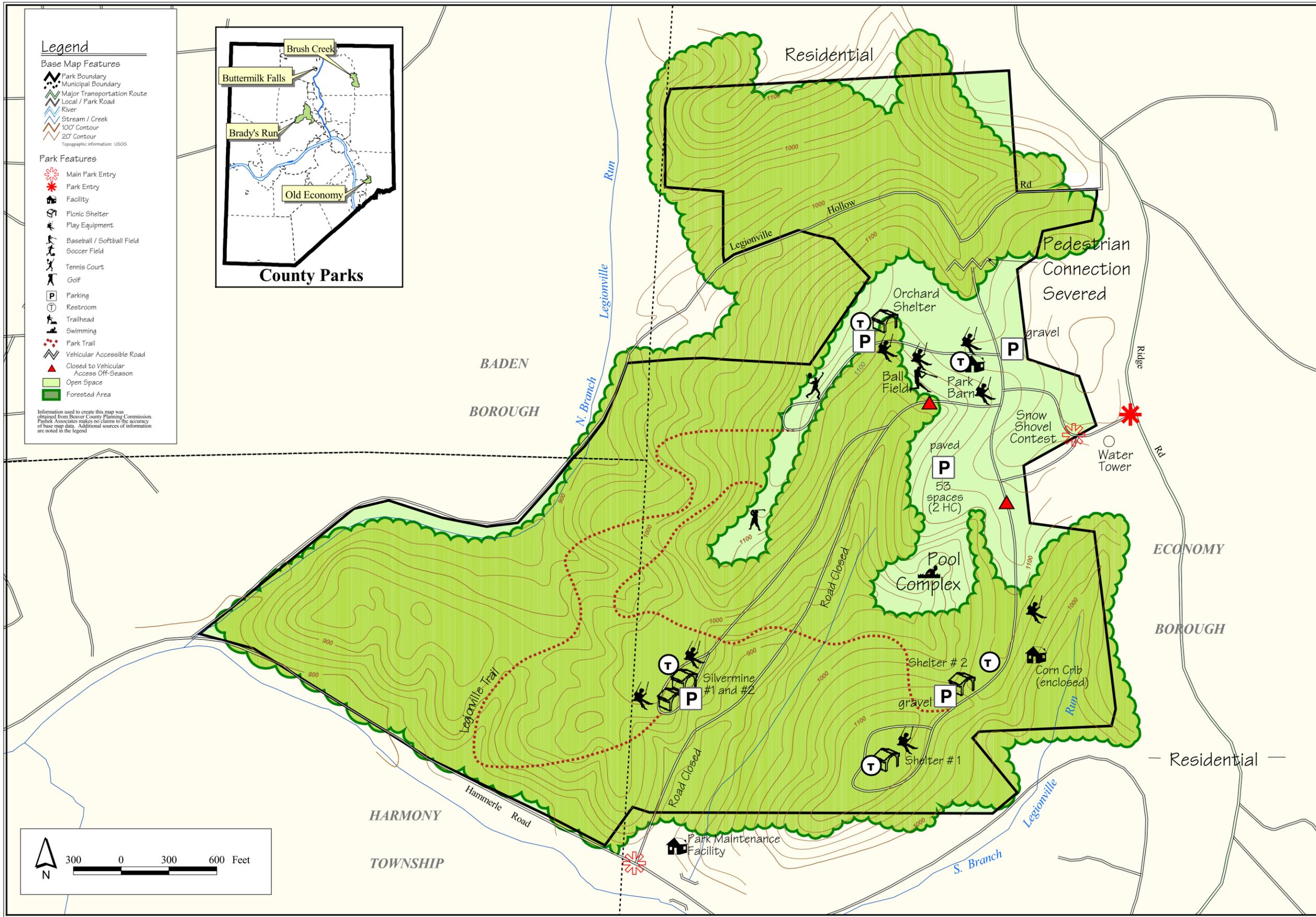
Slide: safety barriers at the top of the slide do not meet standards, replace with pieces that meet current safety standards.

Slide: ladder handrail contains head entrapment area, replace with pieces that meet current safety standards.

Swing: remove tree or relocate swing to provide for an adequate use zone.

Swing: close “S” hooks to meet current safety standards.

**Beaver County, Pennsylvania
Comprehensive Recreation & Parks Plan
Old Economy County Park**



Section 2.4

BRUSH CREEK PARK

Off of Route 588, North Sewickley and Marion Townships

Brush Creek facilities at a glance...

Facility	Total Quantity
Soccer Fields	2
Restrooms	10 sets
Bridges	3
Covered Bridge	1
Vehicular Bridges	2
Playgrounds	2
Tennis Courts	4
Picnic Tables	92
Grills	22
Water Pumps	13
Softball/Baseball Fields	2
Large Model Airplane Fields	1
Lakes	1
Maintenance Facility	1

Brush Creek Park is a approximately 400-acre sprawling, rather natural area, named for the meandering waterway that runs through it. Located in northern Beaver County, its main (and sole public) entry is located off of Route 588.

The park is officially open from Memorial Day through Labor Day, from sunrise to dusk. It is accessible year-round.

Brush Creek Park's main road forms the spine of the Park, leading visitors past soccer fields, over the Creek, past a picturesque lake, large open areas, playgrounds, a beautiful old covered bridge, and 11 picnic groves with parking. A number of narrow walking trails

and equestrian trails of packed earth mingle among the wooded and open areas of the Park. The Park is also home to baseball and softball fields, tennis courts, and inline skating trails.

Brush Creek Park is prone to flooding, which occurs up to 8 to 10 times per year. Each flooding episode often forces the park to close for 1 to 1 ½ days. Monies are being made available through the PA Department of Environmental Protection to implement an erosion control strategy.

Brush Creek Park's facilities, both active and passive, draw a number of visitors throughout its season. The soccer fields near the entry to the Park are used often by Riverside High School, New Brighton High School, and Geneva College. The three ballfields are used every night. There are a number of special uses of the Park as well. A model airplane club uses a large field at the northern end of the Park. The Park also hosts on average 25 weddings a year, reserved through the park at no cost, as well as an annual Civil War reenactment.

Table 2.4.1 Inventory of Facilities at Brush Creek County Park

Facility	Condition	Size/Qty.	ADA Accessible	Parking	Utilities	Comments
Area 1				66 spaces		
Soccer Fields	Good	2 standard	Y			
Restrooms	Good	1 small	N		E, W	Pit toilets
Restrooms	Good	1 small	N		E, W	Pit toilets
Area 2				48 spaces		
Picnic Tables	Good	29 (out)	N			
Bridges	Good	2 small	N			
Restroom	Good	1 small	N		E, W	Pit toilets
Grills	Fair	5				
Area 3				24 spaces		
Grills		5				
Area 4				18 spaces		
Picnic Tables	Good	13	N			
Restroom	Fair	1 small	N		E, W	Pit toilets
Grills	Fair	5				
Area 5				18 spaces		
Restrooms	Good	1 small	N		E, W	Pit toilets
Grill	Fair	1				
Footbridge	Good	1 small	N			

Facility	Condition	Size/Qty.	ADA Accessible	Parking	Utilities	Comments
Area 6				43 spaces		
Playground	Fair	Medium	N			Ages 5-12, safety conc.
Area 7				38 spaces		
Playground	Fair	Small	N			Ages 2-5
Covered Bridge	Good		N			
Restrooms	Good	1 small	N		E, W	Pit toilets
Area 8				45 spaces		
Picnic Tables	Good	11	N			
Restrooms	Good	Large	N		E, W	Pit toilets
Softball Field	Good		N			
Area 9				50 upper; 61 lower = 111		
Softball Field	Good		Y			
Restroom					E, W	Pit toilets
Area 10				15 front; 26 = 41		
Picnic Tables	Good	19	N			
Grills	Fair	6				
Restroom	Good	1 small	N		E, W	Pit toilets
Area 11				41 near field; 22 = 63		
Picnic Tables		20	N			
Restroom		1 small	N		E, W	Pit toilets
Airplane Field	Good		Y			
Tennis Courts	Poor-Fair	4	Y	Near Area 6		2 w/ outdoor carpeting-fair; 2 w/o nets, cracked asphalt; landscape treatment-poor
Lake	Good		Y			picturesque
Vehicular Bridges	Good	2	Y			Concrete
Roadway Guardrails	Good					Wooden uprights sensitive to park environment
Maintenance Facility	Good		Y		E, W, S, T	Well-organized; efficient
Trail signage, mapping	Poor					Inadequate
Water Pumps	Good	Approx. 13	Y/N			well
Signage		1entry, all areas				Ample, understandable.

Playground Safety Audits

A Certified Playground Safety Inspector examined all play equipment within the park. Both general and specific recommendations that apply to each location of play equipment are listed. Please note that general recommendations are as important to the safety of each play area as more specific recommendations.

General Recommendations (for all play equipment)

- r Maintain organic protective surface depth of 12” for all structures.
- r Repaint all equipment that has been chipped or is rusting.
- r Eliminate protrusions by reducing protruding bolts so that no more than two threads are visible.
- r Reverse bolts so that nut is on the bottom of all vertical bolt installations to eliminate vertical protrusions.

Specific Recommendations

7. Large and Small Play Structures

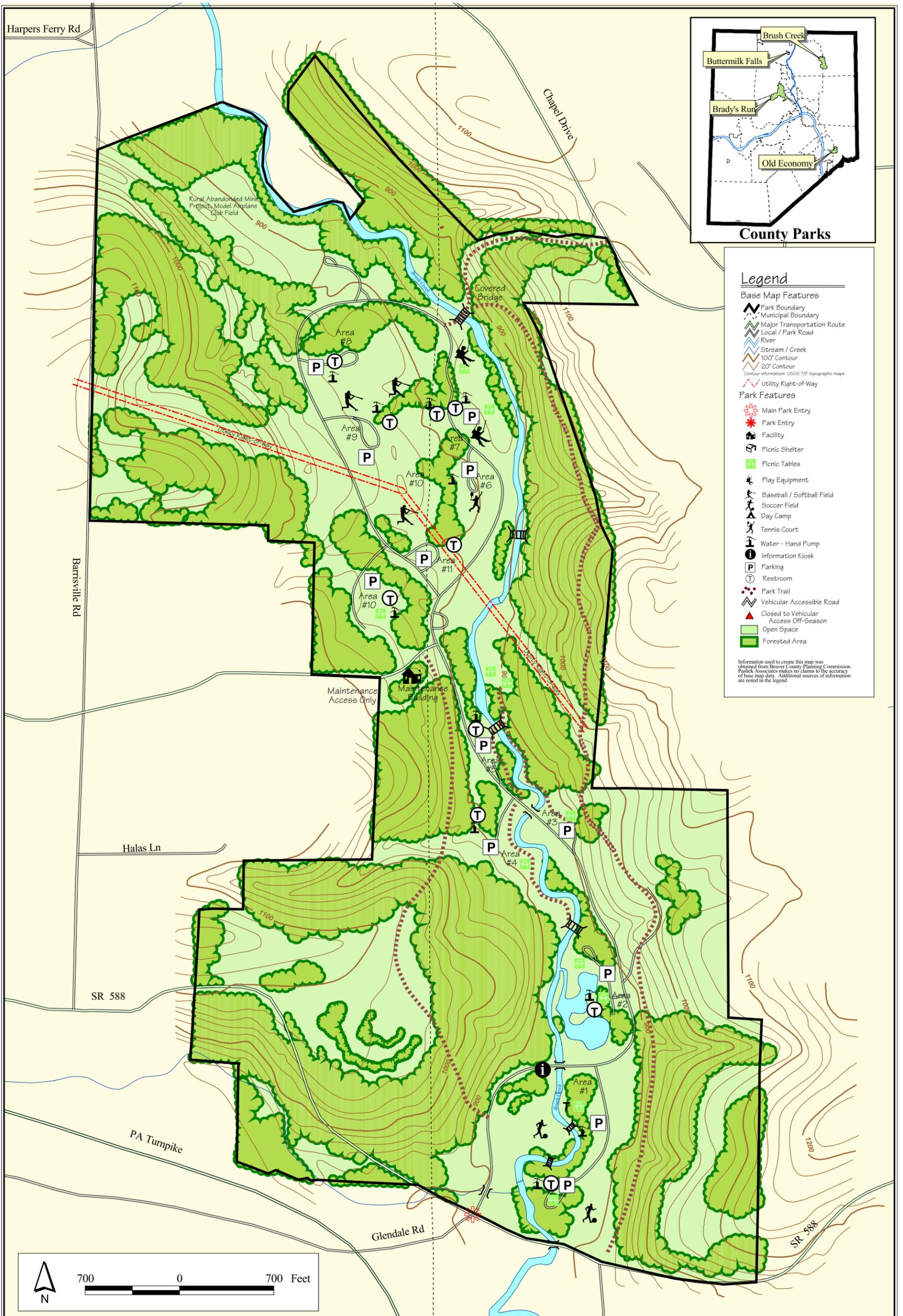
Inspected 04/10/02

Comments:

It appears that the playground is composed of updated equipment.

Recommendations:

Large play structure: tighten loose fasteners to meet current safety standards.



Beaver County, Pennsylvania
Comprehensive Recreation & Parks Plan
Brush Creek County Mine Park



Section 2.5

BRADY’S RUN PARK

Located off of Route 51, two miles north of Beaver Borough, in Brighton and Chippewa Townships.

Brady’s Run facilities at a glance...

Facility	Total Quantity
Structures (Enclosed)	9
Pavilions/Shelters	16
Concessions Stands	2
Restrooms	12 sets
Parking Spaces	200
Tennis Courts	6-Jan
Horseshoes Areas	19
Basketball Courts	2
Soccer Fields	1
Horse Rings	1
Warm-up Rings	1
Observation Towers	1
Recreation Centers	1
Roller-Hockey Areas	1
Swing sets	14
Slides	8
See-saws	7
Climbers	4
Fireman’s Pole	1
Whirl	1
Grills	23
Picnic Tables	196
Trails	3
Stage	1
Boat House	1
Bath House	1
Fishing Dock	1

This is the largest of the County parks, at approximately 1,456 acres. Brady’s Run Park has both a lodge and shelters that are able to accommodate large gatherings (300+). The park has an additional 14 shelters to accommodate picnickers throughout the Park. Softball fields, an open area for soccer, a large horseshoe court, and 6 outdoor tennis courts are among the traditional active recreational offerings found in Brady’s Run.

A number of special facilities and activities are also found in Brady’s Run Park. The Ice Arena hosts a large number of classes, games, and shows, and is open all year long. The Brady’s Run Lodge is the heart of the annual Maple Syrup Festival. The horse arena provides a home base for many horse enthusiasts. 28-acre Brady’s Run Lake accommodates boaters and fishers. Also, there is the newer Brady’s Run Park Recreation Facility. Featuring four indoor tennis courts, lessons, and a walking/running track, it is also open all year long.

In addition to all of these activities, Brady’s Run Park also offers a private rifle and pistol range, a recycling center, play areas, and a

number of walking and hiking trails.

Facility	Condition	Size/Qty.	ADA Accessible	Parking	Utilities	Comments
Pavilion #15	Fair	18X36	N	4 or grass nearby	E-poor, W	Roof good, ceiling needs painted
Picnic tables		17				
BBQ Grills		2				
Concrete floor	Fair		N			Significant drop-off, raised 6-7”
See-saw		1				
Swings		4				1 wooden, 1strap, 2 child
Slide		1				
Pavilion #2	Fair	20X40	Y	25, roughly paved	E – poor	Ceiling needs painted
Concrete floor						Raised 4-5”
Picnic tables		17				
BBQ grills		2				
Swings		2				3 wooden, 1 strap
Restroom	Good	14X16	N			Pit toilets, men and women
Pavilion #14	Good	25X35	N	35	E, W	Newer
Concrete floor						
Picnic tables		18 – inside				
6 – outside						
BBQ grills		2				

Table 2.3.1: Inventory of Facilities at Brady’s Run Park

Facility	Condition	Size/Qty.	ADA Accessible	Parking	Utilities	Comments
See-saw		1				
Slide		1				
Swings		2				Wooden
Outhouse	Poor	2				
Restroom Building	Poor					
Handicapped Recreation Area						
Pavilion		22X28	Y	Gravel, 12-14 cars	W	sidewalks
Fishing dock			Y			
Picnic tables on dock		6	N			
Tire swing	New		Y			
Slide	New		Y			
Fireman’s Pole	New		Y			
Restroom		20X20	Y			Might not meet ADA standards, evaluate
Picnic tables in pavilion		6	N			
Pavilion #1	Good	70X30			E – poor	Roof wind damaged, outside needs painted
Kitchen area		10X30				
Concrete floor	Good					
Water spigot						
BBQ Grills		4				
Swings		4				3 Wooden, 1 child
Swings		4				2 straps, 1 wooden, 1 infant
Slide		1				
Safety surfacing	Poor					
Restroom	Good	14X16	N			Pit toilets, men and women
Pavilion #4	Fair	15X30	N		E – poor, W	Ceiling needs painted
Concrete floor						3” above ground
Slide		1				
See-saw		1				
BBQ grill		1				
Parking area				60		West End of park, North side of road
Building near Pavilion 4		20X40				Unsure of use
Swings		4				2 wooden, 2 children
Whirl		1				
Spider climber		1				
Picnic tables		40				

Facility	Condition	Size/Qty.	ADA Accessible	Parking	Utilities	Comments
BBQ grills		2				
Swings		2				Wooden
Slide						
See-saw						
Pavilion #16	Good	20X34	N	10	E-poor, W	
Concrete floor						Raised 4"
Picnic tables		15				
BBQ Grills		2				
Climber		2				
Climber/slide combo		1				
Outhouses	Good		N			One for Men one for women
Roads throughout park	Fair-Poor					Deteriorating asphalt patched with gravel, potholes
Electric throughout park	Fair-poor					New wires, double-strand wiring, overhead lightpoles, some wires attached to trees
Bridges	Good		N			
Elevated stage area		20X20, raised 4 feet	N		E - poor cond.	No cover, no railings
Pavilion #7	Good	20X40	Y	3	E - poor cond.	Ceiling needs painted
Water Spigot						w/in 50 feet of pavilion
Picnic Tables		17				
BBQ Grills		2				
Swings		2				
Maple Syrup Camp						
Milling Area	Fair	12X20	N	No	E, W	
Sugar Shack	Fair	16X32	N	No	E, W	
Hodge Podge Lodge	Fair	20X40	Y	No	E, W	
Unnamed log cabin	Fair	16X16	N	No	W	Historic
Concession Stand	Good	12X16	N	No	E, W	new
Restroom	Good	14X16	N			Pit toilets, men and women
Brady's Run Lodge	Fair	60X90		No, but room for 12-15 cars		Full kitchen,. Not heated, needs painted on outside, needs roof, maint.
Boat house	Fair	30X60	N	12		Closed down
Bath House	Fair	15X75	N			Closed down
Pavilion #6	Fair	15X30		6-8 one area 10 in another area	E - poor	Ceiling needs painted
Arboretum trail	Fair	5 ft. wide				Asphalt
Picnic tables		15	Y			
BBQ grills		2				

Facility	Condition	Size/Qty.	ADA Acces-sible	Parking	Utilities	Comments
Pavilion #11	Good	20X40	N	8 to 10	E – poor, W	Ceiling needs painted
Concrete floor			N			Ramp to NE end of pavilion
Picnic tables		18				
BBQ grills		2				
See-saw		2				2 wooden, 2 strap
Swings						
Restroom						
Pavilion #3	Good	20X30	N	5	E- poor, W	
Concrete floor						Drop-off
BBQ grill		1				
Swings						3 wooden, 1 infant
Soccer field	Fair	120X40				Rough surface
Pavilion #9	Good	20X30	N	4	E	
Restroom	Good	20X20	N			Pit toilets
Horseshoe pits	Good	60X190, 19 pits		10		Clay, rubber backstops, enclosed in chain-link fence
Concession stand	Fair	10X30				
Main horse ring	Fair	200 feet long				Wooden fence surrounding, grass Seating - 8 sections 5 rows high, 12 feet long, needs painted, need railings
Storage shed		8X10				
Observation tower	Good	8X8				
Warm-up ring	Good	75 feet long				
Restroom		20X20	N			Pit toilets
Pavilion #12	Good	20X40	N		E – poor, W	
Picnic tables		18				
BBQ grills		2				
Swings						
Slide						
See-saw						
Restroom	Good	12X12	N			Newer
Small Pavilion at horse Ring	Fair	10X18				
Pavilion #17		32X14	N		E - poor, one outlet overused	
Concrete floor						Drop-off
BBQ Grill		1				
Small Pavilion	Fair	10X16			E-poor	
Picnic tables		3				

Facility	Condition	Size/Qty.	ADA Accessible	Parking	Utilities	Comments
Small Pavilion	Fair	10X16			E-poor	
Picnic tables		3				
Trail		260 feet				
Concrete building	Good	25X30				Roof in poor condition
Tennis courts #1	Fair-Good	4				Cracking in courts, not lighted, good fencing
Roller-hockey area	Good	70X150				Blacktop, lighted
Tennis Courts #2	Fair-Good	2				Cracks, grass growing through cracks
Basketball courts	Good	2, 75X40				Blacktop, not lighted
Walking Trail	Good	1 mile				
Restroom	Good	14X16	N			Pit toilets, men and women
Four Winds Recreation Ctr.	Good					
Ballfield Complex	Good	6 Fields	N	151 Spaces, Paved/gravel	OE, W	
Softball Field #1	Good	220' Fence Line	Y			New full field fencing. Grandstand seating in fair condition.
Softball Field #1	Good	250' Fence Line	N			New outfield fencing, older baseline and backstop fencing. 1 set of bleachers.
Softball Field #1	Good	170' Fence Line	N			Poor fencing and backstop, no dugouts or seating.
Baseball Field #1	Good	300' Fence Line	Y			Bleachers and dugouts. New full field fencing.
Baseball Field #1	Good	220' Fence Line	Y			Bleachers and dugouts. New partial fencing.
Baseball Field #1	Poor	150' Fence Line	N			Poor fencing and backstop, no dugouts or seating.
Pavilion	Good	20' x 30'	N		OE, W	
Restroom	Good		N		OE, W, S	

Playground Safety Audits

A Certified Playground Safety Inspector examined all play equipment within the park. Both general and specific recommendations that apply to each location of play equipment are listed. Please note that general recommendations are as important to the safety of each play area as more specific recommendations.

General Recommendations (for all play equipment)

- r Maintain organic protective surface depth of 12” for all structures.
- r Repaint all equipment that has been chipped or is rusting.
- r Eliminate protrusions by reducing protruding bolts so that no more than two threads are visible.
- r Reverse bolts so that nut is on the bottom of all vertical bolt installations to eliminate vertical protrusions.

Specific Recommendations

8. Play Area at Shelters #1, #4

Inspected 04/11/02

Comments:

It appears that the playground is composed of *outdated equipment*.

See-saw fails numerous safety standards including: pinch, crush, or shear points, no protective rubber between seat and ground, bent support, and lack of safety surfacing, and should be removed and replaced.

Both swings fail numerous safety tests including: maximum height of crossbar, inadequate use zone, lack of safety surfacing, heavy hitting objects, hand or foot entrapments, and protrusions, and should be removed and replaced.

Slide #1 fails numerous safety tests including: inadequate transition platform and safety barriers, lack of safety surfacing, protrusions, visible rotting, bent safety barriers, head entrapment areas, and exceeds maximum height, and should be removed and replaced.

Recommendations:

Slide #2: the transition platform does not meet minimum 22” standard, replace with piece that meets current safety standards.

Slide #2: safety barriers at the top of the slide do not meet standards, replace with pieces that meet current safety standards.

Slide #2: ladder handrail contains head entrapment area and is bent, replace with pieces that meet current safety standards.

Slide #2: remove tree or relocate slide to provide for an adequate use zone.

9. Play Area at Shelter #2

Inspected 04/11/02

Comments:

It appears that the playground is composed of *outdated equipment*.

Swing fails numerous safety tests including: maximum height of crossbar, lack of safety surfacing, heavy hitting objects, hand or foot entrapments, and protrusions, and should be removed and replaced.

10. Play Area at Shelter #3

Inspected 04/11/02

Comments:

It appears that the playground is composed of *outdated equipment*.

Recommendations:

On the swing, the swing seats contain numerous safety hazards including: hand or foot entrapment areas, hand or foot entrapments, open “S” hooks, and heavy hitting devices, and should be removed and replaced with swing seats that meet current safety standards.

11. Play Area at Shelter #6

Inspected 04/11/02

Comments:

It appears that the playground is composed of *outdated equipment*.

See-saw fails numerous safety standards including: pinch, crush, or shear points, no protective rubber between seat and ground, maximum seat height, and lack of safety surfacing, and should be removed and replaced.

Swing fails numerous safety tests including: maximum height of crossbar, lack of safety surfacing, heavy hitting objects, hand or foot entrapments, bent support, and protrusions, and should be removed and replaced.

Recommendations:

Slide: the transition platform does not meet minimum 22” standard, replace with piece that meets current safety standards.

Slide: safety barriers at the top of the slide do not meet standards, replace with pieces that meet current safety standards.

Slide: ladder handrail contains head entrapment area and is bent, replace with pieces that meet current safety standards.

12. Play Area at the Shelter #7

Inspected 04/11/02

Comments:

It appears that the playground is composed of *outdated equipment*.

Recommendations:

Swing seats: have hand or foot entrapments and should be removed and replaced with swing seats that meet current safety standards.

Swing: remove tree or relocate swing to provide for an adequate use zone.

13. Play Area at Shelter #8

Inspected 04/11/02

Comments:

It appears that the playground is composed of *outdated equipment*.

Swing fails numerous safety tests including: maximum height of crossbar, lack of safety surfacing, heavy hitting objects, hand or foot entrapments, inadequate use zone, and protrusions, and should be removed and replaced.

14. Play Area at Shelter #10

Inspected 04/11/02

Comments:

It appears that the playground is composed of *outdated equipment*.

See-saw fails numerous safety standards including: pinch, crush, or shear points, no protective rubber between seat and ground, and lack of safety surfacing, and should be removed and replaced.

Recommendations:

Slide: the transition platform does not meet minimum 22" standard, replace with piece that meets current safety standards.

Slide: safety barriers at the top of the slide does not meet standards, replace with pieces that meet current safety standards.

Slide: ladder handrail contains head entrapment area, replace with pieces that meet current safety standards.

Swing seats: contain numerous safety hazards including: hard-hitting devices, and hand or foot entrapment areas, and should be removed and replaced with swing seats that meet current safety standards.

Swing: remove tree or relocate swing to provide for an adequate use zone.

15. Play Area at Shelter #11

Inspected 04/11/02

Comments:

It appears that the playground is composed of *outdated equipment*.

See-saw fails numerous safety standards including: pinch, crush, or shear points, no protective rubber between seat and ground, and lack of safety surfacing, and should be removed and replaced.

Recommendations:

Swing seats: contain numerous safety hazards including: hand or foot entrapment areas, hand or foot entrapments, open "S" hooks, and heavy hitting devices, and should be removed and replaced with swing seats that meet current safety standards.

Swing: remove tree or relocate swing to provide for an adequate use zone.

16. Play Area at Shelter #12 (1)

Inspected 04/11/02

Comments:

It appears that the playground is composed of *outdated equipment*.

See-saw fails numerous safety standards including: pinch, crush, or shear points, no protective rubber between seat and ground, inadequate use zone, maximum seat height, and lack of safety surfacing, and should be removed and replaced.

Recommendations:

Slide: the transition platform does not meet minimum 22" standard, replace with piece that meets current safety standards.

Slide: safety barriers at the top of the slide do not meet standards and piece is missing, replace with pieces that meet current safety standards.

Slide: ladder handrail contains head entrapment area, replace with pieces that meet current safety standards.

Slide: bottom of slide maximum height exceeds 15" maximum for children 5-12 and 11" maximum for children 2-5, increase surface elevation at bottom of slide to meet current safety standards

Swing seats: contain numerous safety hazards including: open "S" hooks, and hand or foot entrapment areas, and should be removed and replaced with swing seats that meet current safety standards.

Swing: remove tree or relocate swing to provide for an adequate use zone.

17. Play Area at Shelter #12 (2)

Inspected 04/11/02

Comments:

It appears that the playground is composed of *outdated equipment*.

See-saw fails numerous safety standards including: pinch, crush, or shear points, no protective rubber between seat and ground, inadequate use zone, maximum seat height, and lack of safety surfacing, and should be removed and replaced.

Recommendations:

Slide: the transition platform does not meet minimum 22" standard, replace with piece that meets current safety standards.

Slide: safety barriers at the top of the slide do not meet standards and piece is missing, replace with pieces that meet current safety standards.

Slide: ladder handrail contains head entrapment area and is bent, replace with pieces that meet current safety standards.

Slide: bottom of slide maximum height exceeds 15" maximum for children 5-12 and 11" maximum for children 2-5, increase surface elevation at bottom of slide to meet current safety standards

Swing seats: contain numerous safety hazards including: open “S” hooks, and hand or foot entrapment areas, and should be removed and replaced with swing seats that meet current safety standards.

Swing: remove tree or relocate swing to provide for an adequate use zone.

Swing: support is bent, remove and replace with support that meets current standards.

18. Play Area at Shelter #14

Inspected 04/11/02

Comments:

It appears that the playground is composed of *outdated equipment*.

See-saw fails numerous safety standards including: pinch, crush, or shear points, no protective rubber between seat and ground, and lack of safety surfacing, and should be removed and replaced.

Recommendations:

Slide: the transition platform does not meet minimum 22” standard, replace with piece that meets current safety standards.

Slide: safety barriers at the top of the slide do not meet standards, replace with pieces that meet current safety standards.

Slide: ladder handrail contains head entrapment area and is bent, replace with pieces that meet current safety standards.

Swing seats: contain numerous safety hazards including: hand or foot entrapment areas, hand or foot entrapments, and heavy hitting devices, and should be removed and replaced with swing seats that meet current safety standards.

Swing: remove tree or relocate swing to provide for an adequate use zone.

19. Play Area at Shelter #15

Inspected 04/11/02

Comments:

It appears that the playground is composed of *outdated equipment*.

See-saw fails numerous safety standards including: pinch, crush, or shear points, no protective rubber between seat and ground, and lack of safety surfacing, and should be removed and replaced.

Slide fails numerous safety tests including: inadequate transition platform and safety barriers, lack of safety surfacing, protrusions, head entrapment areas, and exceeds maximum height, and should be removed and replaced.

Recommendations:

Swing seats: contain numerous safety hazards including: hand or foot entrapment areas, hand or foot entrapments, and heavy hitting devices, and should be removed and replaced with swing seats that meet current safety standards.

Swing: remove tree or relocate swing to provide for an adequate use zone.

20. Play Area at Shelter #16

Inspected 04/11/02

Comments:

It appears that the playground is composed of *outdated equipment*.

Recommendations:

Slide climber: safety barriers at the top of the slide do not meet standards, replace with pieces that meet current safety standards.

Slide climber: protective perimeter barrier on elevated surfaces is inadequate, renovate with piece to meet current safety standards or remove and replace slide climber.

Monkey bars: several pieces fail the protrusion test, update pieces to meet current safety standards.

Climber: protective perimeter barrier on elevated surfaces is inadequate, renovate with piece to meet current safety standards or remove and replace climber.

Climber: the “headlights” are a head entrapment area, remove “headlight” pieces or remove and replace climber.

21. Play Area in Grass

Inspected 04/11/02

Comments:

It appears that the playground is composed of *outdated equipment*.

Recommendations:

Swing seats: contain numerous safety hazards including: open “S” rings, hard-hitting devices, and hand or foot entrapment areas, and should be removed and replaced with swing seats that meet current safety standards.

Swing: adjust swing hangars so they are a minimum of 24” from each other and 30” from the frame.

Whirl: platform peripheral speed exceeds recommendations, and should be upgraded to meet current safety standards.

Climber: protective perimeter barrier on elevated surfaces is inadequate, renovate with pieces to meet current safety standards or remove and replace climber.

22. Play Area at Handicapped Fishing Area

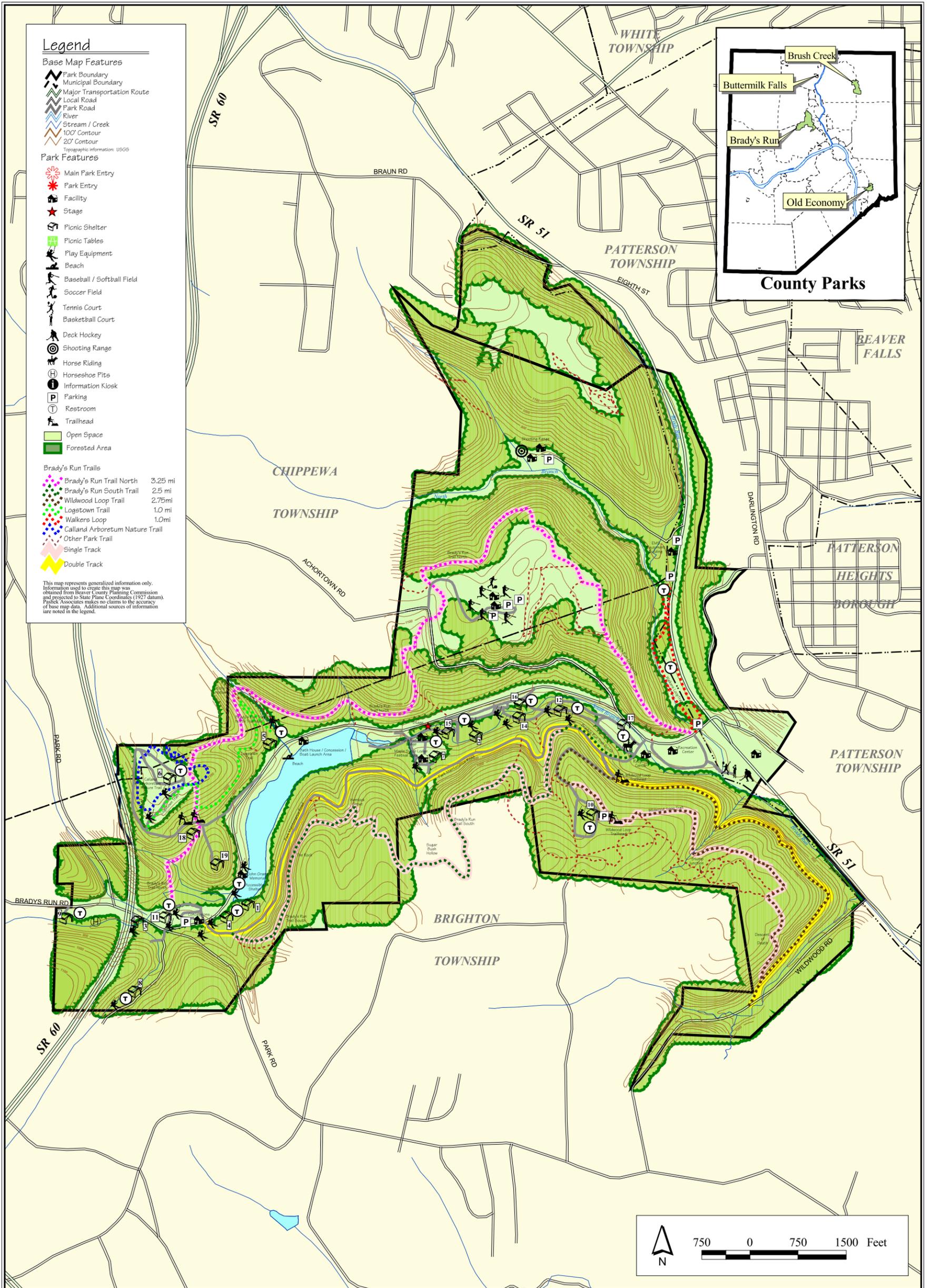
Inspected 04/11/02

Comments:

It appears that the playground is composed of *updated equipment*.

Recommendations:

Larger play structure: install safety surfacing to meet current safety standards. After installation, maintain organic protective surface depth of 12” for all structures.



Beaver County, Pennsylvania

Comprehensive Recreation & Parks Plan



Information used to create this map was obtained from Beaver County Planning Commission. Pashek Associates makes no claims to the accuracy of base map data. Additional sources of information are noted in the legend.

Brady's Run County Park

Section 2.6

PLAYGROUND SAFETY AUDITS

A Certified Playground Safety Inspector examined all play equipment within the park. This chapter presents the findings of the inspection for each of the County Parks. For specific recommendations for each of the County Park's play equipment, please see Sections 2.4 through 2.6. Also, please note that general recommendations are as important to the safety of each play area as more specific recommendations.

Across the nation over 150,000 children are treated annually in hospital emergency rooms for playground-related injuries. To reduce the occurrence and severity of playground injuries several organizations have developed playground safety standards, which, if followed, should dramatically reduce the number of playground accidents. The American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM), the United States Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), and the Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board are three organizations that have established general guidelines for new and existing playgrounds and technical guidelines for equipment and surfacing. These guidelines and regulations include the following:

- A. ASTM F-1487 Standard for Playground Equipment for Public Use
- B. ASTM F-1292 Standard for Playground Surfacing for Public Use
- C. United States Consumer Product Safety Commission Handbook for Public Playground Safety
- D. Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) Accessibility Guidelines for Buildings and Facilities; Play Areas; Final Rule

Steps should be taken to ensure that all playgrounds and equipment meet the above safety criteria.

It is recommended that frequent playground safety inspections be performed to identify such hazards as worn or broken equipment, unsafe environmental conditions, and insufficient depth of organic safety surfacing. Qualified staff members who have been trained in performing these inspections should perform safety inspections on a frequent and regular basis.

It is recommended that a risk management plan be developed and implemented. This plan is an important pro-active step that will help to prevent injuries. The risk management plan should include documented safety inspections. By implementing a risk management program, municipalities can prepare a defense against claims or lawsuits.

To prepare a successful risk management plan, one must consider five factors:

- 1) Develop a plan of action by identifying hazards, prioritizing them, and determining costs to correct those hazards. This plan should include routine playground safety audits. The higher the playground's use, the more frequently that playground should be reviewed for safety hazards.
- 2) Address known problems by correcting hazards.
- 3) Take all action necessary to prevent accidents from occurring in the first place.
- 4) Implement pro-active steps by providing adequate training, acting immediately on complaints, and repairing equipment only with parts provided by the equipment manufacturer.
- 5) Document all activities including written inspection reports and corrective actions.

Hazards are generally classified into three categories:

1. A Condition Likely to Cause Minor (Non-Disabling) Injury

Examples of Hazards:

- A. Loose steering wheel.
- B. Missing parts, such as: missing support post caps, tic-tac-toe panels, etc.
- C. Splinters and sharp corners of metal washers.
- D. Protruding bolt threads (non-entanglement).
- E. Protruding set screws, bolts at base, etc.
- F. Handgrips and/or footrests on spring rockers or buck-about that fail the protrusion gauges, or are less than 3" in length.
- G. Railings that are installed too high above ramps or stairways.
- H. Railings that are not between 0.95" and 1.55" in diameter.
- I. Newer slides that no longer meet current standards; e.g., handrails at top of slide chute lack sufficient clearance and are considered obstructions.
- J. Swing seat protrusions.
- K. Combined tot and junior swing seats in one bay.
- L. Swing hangers of a unit closer than 20" apart, measured at the pivot point along the top rail.
- M. Deck heights or reach problems associated with horizontal climbers, such as:
 - 1. Rungs shall be no greater than 15" apart
 - 2. Horizontal distance from the deck surface to the first rung shall be no greater than 10".
 - 3. Horizontal distance from vertical climbing rungs to the first rung shall be between 8" and 10".
 - 4. Maximum height shall be 84" for 5 to 12 year old children.
 - 5. Maximum Height shall be 60" for 2 to 5 year old children.
 - 6. Sliding poles not between 18" to 20" from access deck.
 - 7. Climbing rungs not spaced evenly or properly, i.e., rungs cannot be more than 12" apart for 2 to 5 year old children and cannot be more than 16" apart for 5 to 12 year old children.
 - 8. Seats to spring rockers higher than 24" above the protective surfaces.
 - 9. Balance beams higher than 12" above the protective surfaces.

2. A Condition Likely to Cause Serious Injury or Illness, Resulting in Temporary Disability.

Examples of Hazards:

- A. Oscillatory motion (wobble) of whirl.
- B. Missing or damaged parts that create sharp points.
- C. Sharp points or edges.
- D. Insufficient protective surfacing that fails to meet fall zone requirements around play structures, i.e., minimum 6' beyond stationary play structures, including climbers, access and sides of slides, whirls, support posts of swings, balance beams, and spring rockers intended for sitting.
 - 1. For slide exit region: height (elevation of slide entrance above surface) plus 4', to be measured from transitions change at bottom of slide chute.
 - 2. For swings: twice the distance between the surface and the pivot point of the swing seat, to be measured in both directions from the top rail.
 - 3. For tire swings: the distance between the surface and the pivot point of the tire, plus 6' to be measured in both directions from the top rail.
 - 4. Minimum 7' beyond spring rockers intended for standing.
- E. Insufficient fall zone clearance to adjacent elements, i.e., measurements as per above requirements, in relationship to fence lines, gutters, walls, trees, etc.

- F. Overlapping fall zones of adjacent play structures, that fail to meet the following requirements:
 - 1. Minimum 12' between play structures; exceptions:
 - a. Components of stationary play structures that are less than 30" high, may be a minimum of 6' apart.
 - b. Support posts of adjacent swing frames may be a minimum of 6' apart.
 - c. Spring rockers intended for sitting may be a minimum of 6' apart.

- G. Inadequate guardrails or protective barriers, that fail to meet the following requirements:
 - 1. A guardrail is a device around an elevated surface that prevents inadvertent falls from the elevated surface. The top surface shall have a minimum height of 29" above the deck for 2 to 5 year old children; minimum height of 38" for 5 to 12 years old children. There shall be no spaces between 3-1/2" and 9".
 - 2. A protective barrier is an enclosing device around an elevated surface that prevents both inadvertent and deliberate attempts to pass through the device. The top surface shall have a minimum height of 29" above the deck for 2 to 5 year old children; minimum height of 38" for 5 to 12 year old children. There shall be no spaces greater than 3-1/2".
 - 3. Guardrails or protective barriers are required on elevated surfaces that are more than 20" above protective surfacing, when intended for 2 to 5 year old children; and on elevated surfaces more than 30" above protective surfacing, when intended for 5 to 12 year old children.
 - 4. Protective barriers are required on elevated surfaces that are greater than 30" above protective surfacing, when intended for 2 to 5 year old children; and on elevated surfaces greater than 48" above protective surfacing, when intended for 5 to 12 year old children.

- H. Composite units that lack in-fill plates between deck elevations.
- I. Old, traditionally-designed slides that no longer meet current standards, due to design, fabrication, or inadequate fall restraints, e.g.:
 - 1. Lack of transition deck at slide entrance (22" minimum).
 - 2. Lack of handholds or barriers to facilitate the transitions from standing to a sitting position.
 - 3. Lack of hand railings that extend the entire length of step access.
 - 4. Sides of slide chute are less than 4" high.
 - 5. Lack of sufficient clearance along slide chute (obstructions that cause entanglement).
 - 6. Incorrect height of exit region above protective surfacing such as:
 - a. When slide is no greater than 48" long, height shall not exceed 11".
 - b. When slide is greater than 48" long, height shall not be less than 7" or exceed 15".

- J. Swing seats within 30" of support posts and/or within 24" of each other, measured at a height of 5' above protective surfacing, or more than 2 seats per bay.
- K. Circulation problems, (relationship of swings and whirls to movement through site).
- L. Fall onto interior components of structure from a height greater than 18".
- M. Arch or net climbers connected above decks.
- N. Supports of net climbers not attached beneath protective surface.

3. A Condition Likely to Cause Fatality, Permanent Disability, or Loss of Body Part.

Examples of Hazards:

- A. Lacks structural integrity or stability (equipment failure or tip over).
- B. Loose, damaged, or missing parts, that affect stability, or can lead to falls, such as worn swing hangers, "S" hooks, or other hardware.
- C. Protrusions that can cause deep lacerations.
- D. Protrusions that can present entanglement situations, which are directly related to articles of clothing:
 - 1. Bolt threads more than 1/8" from a horizontal plane (entanglement).

2. Bolt caps not flush against nut, or other similar situations (entanglement).
 3. Protrusions or projections formed by fabrication technique, assembly or design composition that present possible entanglements.
- E. Pinch/crush/shear points (between moving parts relative to one another or juncture between moving and stationary supports).
 - F. Head entrapment (spaces between 3-1/2" to 9"), and components that intersect creating angles less than 55 degrees, that are greater than 9" in length and project upward.
 - G. Entanglement: "S" hooks open more than .04", and/or gaps between slide chute and deck, or along slide chute, that are associated with catching articles of clothing.
 - H. No protective surface beneath play equipment, or insufficient depth to meet shock absorbing requirements.
 - I. Pivot points of swings that are higher than 10' for junior seats or 8' for tot seats.
 - J. Swing attachments connected to composite units or hard-hitting swing units.
 - K. Environmental ground obstacles, such as: rocks, roots, raised concrete footings, etc.
 - L. Climbers and slides that are higher than CPA safety guidelines:
 1. 6' for 2 to 5 year old children.
 2. 7' for 5 to 12 year old children.
 - M. Sliding poles attached to play structures intended for 2 to 5 year old children.
 - N. Swing frames that do not discourage climbing.

This study recommends modifying play equipment only according to manufacturer's recommendations. The original manufacturer of each piece of unsafe equipment should be approached to learn if retrofits or upgrade information are available. Where this is not possible, or if no retrofits are available, unsafe play equipment should be removed and replaced. On no account should Beaver County attempt to perform ad hoc repairs to unsafe play equipment; this is unwise from the standpoints of both safety and liability.

A system of analysis and ranking was used to prioritize equipment improvements. The rankings are based on a points system that was determined by the playground hazards categories. A category 1 hazard earns one point; category 2 hazard two points; category 3 hazard three points. Once each piece of equipment has been audited, the points are then tallied, earning a rating for each play area. The playgrounds with the highest point totals are then given priority for upgrades, while the lowest totals are given a lesser priority. Please note that this does not mean that a playground with a low total does not need to be upgraded, only that the other playgrounds are in need of more immediate attention. The table below presents a summary of the playground safety hazards identified during field review conducted in the spring of 2002.

Playground Safety Hazard Score and Prioritization of Improvements

Playground (Equipment and Location)	Safety Hazard Score	Playground Score	Priority
Old Economy County Park			
Old Economy (Near Barn - Swing #1)	21		
Old Economy (Near Barn - Swing #2)	20		
Old Economy (Near Barn - See-saw)	18		
		59	3

Playground (Equipment and Location)	Safety Hazard Score	Playground Score	Priority
Old Economy (Near Corn Crib - Swing)	29		
Old Economy (Near Corn Crib - Slide)	20		
Old Economy (Near Corn Crib - Climber)	26		
		75	1
Old Economy (Near Shelter #1 - Swing)	21		
Old Economy (Near Tennis Courts - Slide)	26		
Old Economy (Near Tennis Courts - Swing)	28		
Old Economy (Near Tennis Courts - See-saw)	16		
		70	2
Old Economy (Near Silver Mines Shelter 1 - Slide)	19		
Old Economy (Near Silver Mines Shelter 1 - Swing)	32		
Old Economy (Near Silver Mines Shelter 1 - See-saw)	19		
		70	2
Old Economy (Near Silver Mines Shelter 2 - Slide)	19		
Old Economy (Near Silver Mines Shelter 2 - Swing)	21		
Old Economy (Near Silver Mines Shelter 2 - See-saw)	16		
		56	4
Brush Creek County Park			
Brush Creek (Small Structure)	8		
Brush Creek (Large Structure)			
		8	-
Brady's Run County Park			
Brady's Run (Near Shelter's #1, 4 - Swing #1)	30		
Brady's Run (Near Shelter's #1, 4 - Swing #2)	29		
Brady's Run (Near Shelter's #1, 4 - Slide #1)	30		
Brady's Run (Near Shelter's #1, 4 - Slide #2)	19		
Brady's Run (Near Shelter's #1, 4 - See-saw)	22		
		130	1
Brady's Run (Near Shelter #2 - Swing)	25		
Brady's Run (Near Shelter #3 - Swing)	21		
Brady's Run (Near Shelter #6 - Swing)	31		
Brady's Run (Near Shelter #6 - Slide)	22		
Brady's Run (Near Shelter #6 - See-saw)	21		
		74	2
Brady's Run (Near Shelter #7 - Swing)	25		
Brady's Run (Near Shelter #8 - Swing)	32		
Brady's Run (Near Shelter #10 - Swing)	23		
Brady's Run (Near Shelter #10 - Slide)	17		
Brady's Run (Near Shelter #10 - See-saw)	16		
		56	8
Brady's Run (Near Shelter #11 - Swing)	32		
Brady's Run (Near Shelter #11 - See-saw)	23		
		55	9

Playground (Equipment and Location)	Safety Hazard Score	Playground Score	Priority
Brady's Run (Near Shelter #12 - Swing)	19		
Brady's Run (Near Shelter #12 - See-saw)	26		
Brady's Run (Near Shelter #12 - Slide)	21		
		66	5
Brady's Run (Near Shelter #12 - Slide)	21		
Brady's Run (Near Shelter #12 - Swing)	25		
Brady's Run (Near Shelter #12 - See-saw)	16		
		62	6
Brady's Run (Near Shelter #14 - Swing)	30		
Brady's Run (Near Shelter #14 - See-saw)	17		
Brady's Run (Near Shelter #14 - Slide)	20		
		67	4
Brady's Run (Near Shelter #15 - See-saw)	17		
Brady's Run (Near Shelter #15 - Swing)	26		
Brady's Run (Near Shelter #15 - Slide)	23		
		66	5
Brady's Run (Near Shelter #16 - Slide Climber)	25		
Brady's Run (Near Shelter #16 - Monkey Bars)	22		
Brady's Run (Near Shelter #16 - Climber)	23		
		70	3
Brady's Run (Grass - Swing)	21		
Brady's Run (Grass - Whirl)	11		
Brady's Run (Grass - Spider Climber)	26		
		58	7
Brady's Run (Near Handicap Fisherman Area - Ground Level Play Area)	1		
Brady's Run (Near Handicap Fisherman Area - Play Structure)	10		
		11	13

Numerous safety standards were not met. The existing playgrounds at the different parks do not meet current Consumer Product Safety Commission's (CPSC) Handbook for Public Playground Safety and American Society of Testing Materials (ASTM) Standard Consumer Safety Performance Specification for Public Playground Equipment for Public Use, F 1487-93. The field review revealed that the existing playgrounds and recreational facilities in Beaver County's County Parks generally do not meet current safety standards.

Generally, safety hazards included:

- r No protective surfacing installed in numerous equipment use zones.
- r Entrapments
- r Inadequate use zones
- r Broken / structurally unsafe equipment
- r Exposed footings and debris
- r Protrusions
- r Lack of access by sidewalks
- r Lack of perimeter fencing
- r Lack of signage on bordering roads

Specific recommendations for each piece of play equipment can be found in their respective County Park Section of the Plan (2.4 through 2.6).

Please note that the safety audit conducted for this study may not represent all hazards that are located within the areas audited.

To better understand the playground equipment deficiencies on a Countywide basis, the following table redistributes scores and prioritization of all County Park play areas.

County Park	Playground	Safety Hazard Score	Playground Priority (By County Park)	Playground Priority (All County)
Brady's Run	Shelter #1, 4	130	1	1
Old Economy	Corn Crib	75	1	2
Brady's Run	Shelter # 6	74	2	3
Old Economy	Tennis Courts	70	3	4
Old Economy	Silver Mines Shelter #1	70	3	4
Brady's Run	Shelter # 16	70	3	4
Brady's Run	Shelter # 14	67	4	5
Brady's Run	Shelter # 12	66	6	6
Brady's Run	Shelter # 15	66	6	6
Brady's Run	Shelter # 12	62	7	7
Old Economy	Barn	59	4	8
Brady's Run	Grass Field	58	8	9
Old Economy	Silver Mines Shelter #2	56	5	10
Brady's Run	Shelter # 10	56	9	10
Brady's Run	Shelter # 11	55	10	11
Brady's Run	Shelter # 8	32	11	12
Brady's Run	Shelter # 2	25	13	13
Brady's Run	Shelter # 7	25	13	13
Old Economy	Shelter #1	21	6	14
Brady's Run	Shelter # 3	21	14	14
Brady's Run	Handicapped Fishing Area	11	15	15
Brush Creek	Small Play Structure	8	1	16
Brush Creek	Large Play Structure	0	0	-

Section 2.7

SPATIAL ANALYSIS

Following the inventory of recreation facilities, a spatial analysis of regional recreation features was conducted. The purpose of this analysis is to evaluate the level of service that the existing County parks provide. Please see the spatial analysis map located at the end of this section.

The recommendations of this study with regard to parks are based on the premise that in order to provide the best possible service to residents, it is important to understand and take into account the different ways in which people use parks and recreation facilities. The function or use of park depends on its size, location, and facilities. Parks can be organized into a hierarchy that defines their functions and the kinds of activities they can be expected to accommodate. Refer to Section 1.4 of this Plan for a discussion of the NRPA's hierarchy of parks.

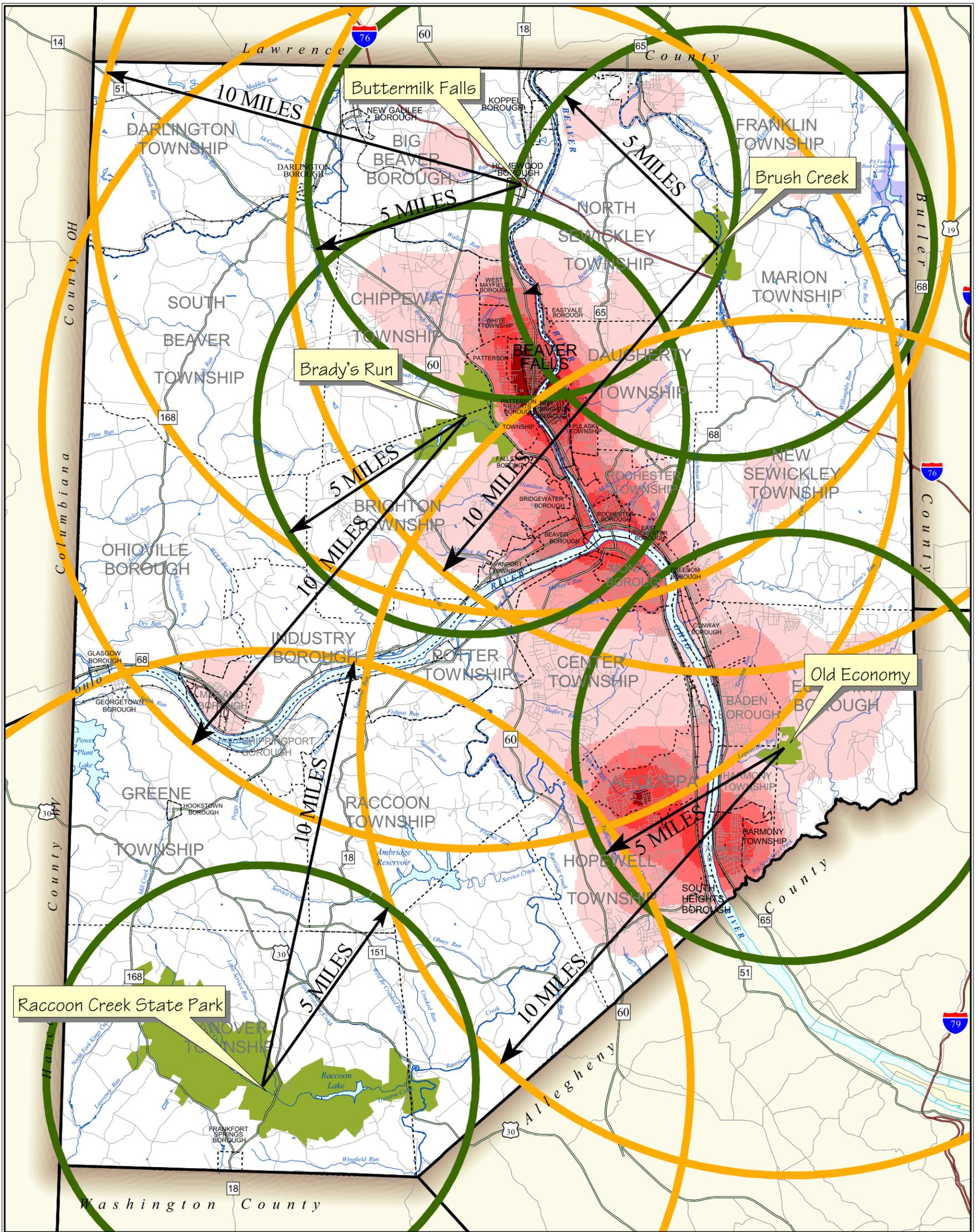
Because neighborhood and community parks must be evaluated in relation to their immediate communities, analysis of their level of service is outside the scope of this county-level recreation and open space study. The particular focus of this study is on facilities owned by Beaver County, which do not fall definitively within an NRPA-defined category. County parks, however, often have characteristics of community parks, regional/metropolitan facilities, and regional reserves.

Each of the four county parks has a unique character and all of them contribute to a successful county parks system. The parks range in size from several to thousands of acres. Old Economy, Brush Creek, and Brady's Run Parks exhibit the characteristics of a typical county park: large in size; include natural areas, sports fields, playgrounds, areas that can accommodate special events, unique regional recreation opportunities (ice arena, equestrian facilities). Buttermilk Falls, at only a few acres, is smaller in size, but offers unique opportunities to picnic and enjoy nature's beauty.

The four county parks are evenly distributed throughout the county, with the exception of the southwestern corner. The County's population is concentrated in the municipalities along the Ohio River, which includes the significant population centers of Beaver Falls, Rochester, Beaver, Monaca, Ambridge, and Aliquippa.

Regional opportunities other than county parks may fill county residents' recreation needs as well. In particular, Raccoon Creek State Park, in Hanover Township, offers a number of recreational opportunities within easy access of residents in the southwestern portion of the County. The park provides boating, fishing, picnic areas, shelters, swimming area, trails and a nature reserve. These are all recreation services similar to those provided by the four county parks. Efforts to increase residents' awareness and use of this park can offset the lack of a County-owned park in this portion of the County.

Taking into consideration the Beaver County parks and Raccoon Creek State Park, every Beaver County resident lives within five to ten miles of one or more county/regional parks, a significant positive attribute of the recreation and open space system.



Legend

Base Map Features

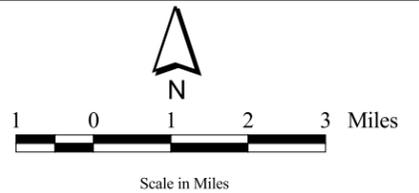
- County Boundary
- Municipal Boundary
- Interstate Route
- U.S. / State Route
- Local Road
- River
- Stream / Creek
- Railroad

Total Population (per square mile)

- Less than 500
- 501 - 1000
- 1001 - 1500
- 1501 - 2000
- 2001 - 2500
- Greater than 2500

Interpreted from US Census Data

- Regional / County Park
- 5 Mile Service Area
- 10 Mile Service Area



Information used to create the base map was obtained from Beaver County Comprehensive Plan GIS data. Pashek Associates makes no claims to the accuracy of base map data. Additional sources of information are noted in the legend.

Beaver County, Pennsylvania

Comprehensive Recreation & Parks Plan



Spatial Analysis

*Beaver County Comprehensive Recreation
and Parks Plan*

Chapter 3: Where Do We Want To Be?

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The public participation process was crucial in developing viable recommendations for the future of parks, recreation and open space in Beaver County. The public input process included public meetings, close work with the project study group, distribution and tabulation of a recreation questionnaire and several key person interviews. Providing several venues for resident participation resulted in a holistic understanding of the current state of recreation, parks and open space, the issues that are important to Beaver County's residents and the types of improvements they would like to see.

Section 3.1

PROJECT STUDY COMMITTEE

A nine-member committee comprised of informed and influential Beaver County employees and activists was formed to guide the successful development of the Comprehensive Recreation and Parks Plan for Beaver County. Meeting approximately once per month, this group played a key role at every step in the process, from inventory and analysis to final recommendations.

One of the first orders of business for the Committee was to establish major goals for the Plan. Committee members decided that the Plan should:

- r Develop a clear vision for Beaver County’s Parks and create a new mission statement for the Beaver County Recreation Department.
- r Ensure that the Recreation Department has the resources to run and effectively market our parks within the community.
- r Create an inventory of current park facilities, environmentally sensitive areas, and other recreational amenities, assess their conditions and present a plan for current improvement, future development, maintenance and/or preservation that decision makers can use to adequately maintain and improve our current park system and set the pace for future park development.
- r Develop an inventory of park and recreational facilities in all 54 municipalities to provide context for the inventory and analysis of the County facilities, and the County’s role in providing recreational opportunities.
- r Establish a strategy for park and recreational facility and program development based on the County demographic qualities, interests of the residents of Beaver County, and in line with standards from the National Recreation and Park Association.
- r Study current operational, maintenance, and capital expenditures, and to create a financial strategy with funding sources to achieve goals and objectives of the plan.
- r Establish a capital improvement program (that clearly identifies potential funding sources) to address maintenance, programs, and future development.
- r Ensure that new facilities are designed (and old facilities are repaired) in a manner that meets current safety guidelines developed by the Consumer Products Safety Commission, the Americans with Disabilities Act, and other applicable sources.
- r Establish a program to preserve environmentally sensitive areas, open space, and greenways within County-owned parks.

What Does the Study Group Do?

- ? Act as a sounding board for ideas as the Plan is developed.
- ? Assist in the development of the recreation questionnaire.
- ? Provide feedback as existing recreation facilities and programs were inventoried.
- ? Review and comment on the draft report and recommendations.

In addition to establishing goals for the Plan, the Study Committee also identified early in the process some key issues surrounding parks and recreation in the County.

These key issues included:

- r Developing Beaver County's niche in parks and recreation.
- r Developing projects with an associated funding plan to enable ease of future implementation.
- r Capitalizing on rivers and riverfronts for recreation and conservation.
- r Providing access to County Parks for those without vehicles.
- r Building or acquiring a County golf course.
- r Offering basic/introductory sports programs and workshops.
- r Identifying and maintaining natural areas with the same priority as active areas.
- r Examining opportunities for private operation of public facilities.
- r Having a full time maintenance staff under the supervision of the Recreation Director.
- r Marketing County Parks as regional (multi-municipal) destinations.

Section 3.2

PUBLIC MEETINGS

All parties interested in the development of this Plan were invited to share their insights and opinions at two advertised public meetings, held in central locations.

One meeting was held at the beginning of the process to gather input into the plan. The second was held at the end of the process to present the findings and proposed plans to County residents and stakeholders.

After offering an overview of the Comprehensive Recreation and Parks planning process, the Consultant explained that the purpose of this meeting was to generate a list of opportunities relating to any aspect of recreation in Beaver County. These ideas were then prioritized through the use of the nominal group technique. This technique consists of a brainstorming session to elicit any and all issues, and then encouraging each person in the group to rank those issues in order of importance on a scale of one through five. These numbers are then added, assigning each issue a point value.

Twenty-nine opportunities, both physical and programmatic, were identified by attendees and then ranked in order of importance. The top rankings were for Beaver County to:

- r Support funding for State Park.
- r Develop a new park in southern section of County.
- r Preserve scenic views and walking paths along river.
- r Aggressively pursue state and federal grants.
- r Increase cooperative efforts among regional facilities.
- r Keep political leaders well informed of efforts and progress.
- r Avoid duplication of recreational offerings among the local and county level.
- r Sponsor outreach programs.
- r Develop goals, milestones, and timetables.
- r Create sledding areas.
- r Be financially responsible and reasonable.

Section 3.3

THE RECREATION QUESTIONNAIRE

The Beaver County recreation questionnaire was one of several public input venues utilized in the development of this plan. The results of the questionnaire must be considered with the input collected through the public meetings, key person interviews, and study group meetings.

Typical recreation questionnaire response rates range from 10% to 13% so the response rate of 11.5% from the 7,000 surveys sent to a random sample of county residents is average. The age demographics of the responding households corresponded closely with the demographics of the entire county population.

Residents' responses emphasize the importance of parks, recreation, and open space in Beaver County. 95% of respondents feel parks, recreation programs, and public open spaces are somewhat important, important, or very important. Additionally, 97% of respondents feel similarly about the importance of a countywide open space system that protects natural areas.

With regard to recreation programs, a significant number of respondents (84%) feel additional programs and special events should be provided in their area of the county. A majority of these respondents live in Center, Brighton, Economy, Hopewell, Beaver Falls, New Brighton, and Baden.

The county parks in Beaver are heavily used. When asked to list the parks and recreation facilities they use, in order of importance, respondents indicated that Brady's Run and Brush Creek Parks were visited most often. However, 92% of respondents never visited Buttermilk Falls County Park. The largest number of respondents indicated that lack of awareness prevented them from using facilities or attending programs. When asked what type of recreation facilities need to be provided, added, or expanded, bicycle, jogging/walking, and fitness trails were the top three responses. Most respondents indicated that they are currently using picnic areas/shelters and jogging/walking trails.

To assist in gauging the existing county parks' level of service, residents were asked how much time they would be willing to spend to travel to a regionally significant park or special event. 47% indicated 16-30 minutes, which would typically translate to approximately ten to fifteen miles.

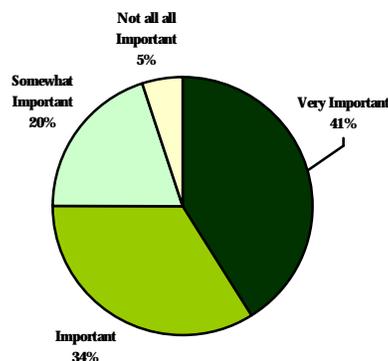
The following presents each of the survey questions and response findings as noted.

1. In which municipality do you reside?

52 different municipalities are represented

2. How important are parks, recreation programs, and public open space to your household's quality of life?

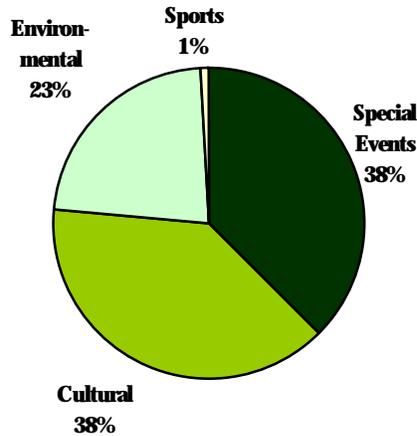
75% of respondents feel parks, recreation programs, and public open space are important or very important.



3. Do you feel that additional programs and special events should be developed in your area of the County?

(84%) *Yes* - top responses: *Center, Brighton, Economy, Hopewell, Beaver Falls, New Brighton, Baden,*
 (16%) *No*

If Yes, please check which area you/your household feels more programming is needed.



4. If new recreation programs were developed in the County, which age group(s) should programs target?

Generally, all age groups were equally identified.

5. Please list, in order of importance, any parks and recreation facilities your household uses *including private and municipal facilities*

The top two responses for A (first listed) ,B (second listed), and C (third listed) are indicated below.

A. Name: *Brady’s Run – 262 respondents*

Number of times per year you visit: *total of 8,019 visits / average of 30 visits per respondent*

Name: *Brush Creek – 56 respondents*

Number of times per year you visit: *total of 2,927 visits / average of 52 visits per respondent*

B. Name: *Brady’s Run – 108 respondents*

Number of times per year you visit: *total of 1,620 visits / average of 15 visits per respondent*

Name: *Brush Creek – 59 respondents*

Number of times per year you visit: *total of 688 visits / average of 12 visits per respondent*

C. Name: *Brady’s Run – 27 respondents*

Number of times per year you visit: *total of 203 visits / average of 7 visits per respondent*

Name: *Brush Creek – 21 respondents*

Number of times per year you visit: *total of 121 visits / average of 6 visits per respondent*

Other Responses:

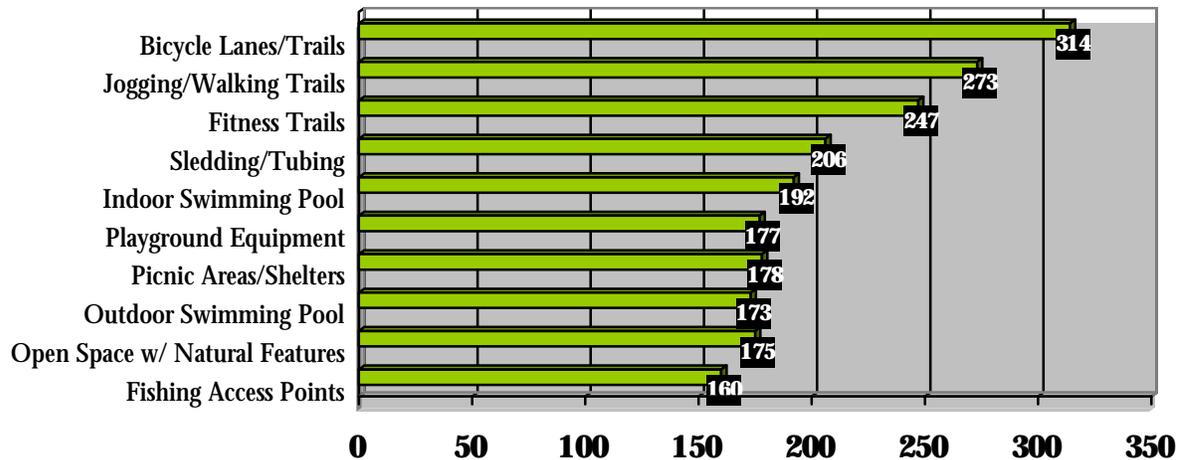
- A: *Old Economy Park – 38 respondents, 1239 visits*
Brady’s Run Park Recreation Facility – 9 respondents, 593 visits
Hopewell Park – 23 respondents, 231 visits
Raccoon State Park – 28 respondents, 229 visits
YMCA – 8 respondents, 1224 visits
Two Mile Run – 10 respondents, 47 visits
- B: *Two Mile Run – 17 respondents, 81 visits*
Old Economy Park – 25 respondents, 195 visits
Raccoon State Park – 27 respondents, 163 visits
- C: *Raccoon State Park – 13 respondents, 49 visits*
Old Economy Park – 7 respondents, 81 visits

6. Do you visit the County Parks, and if so, how often?

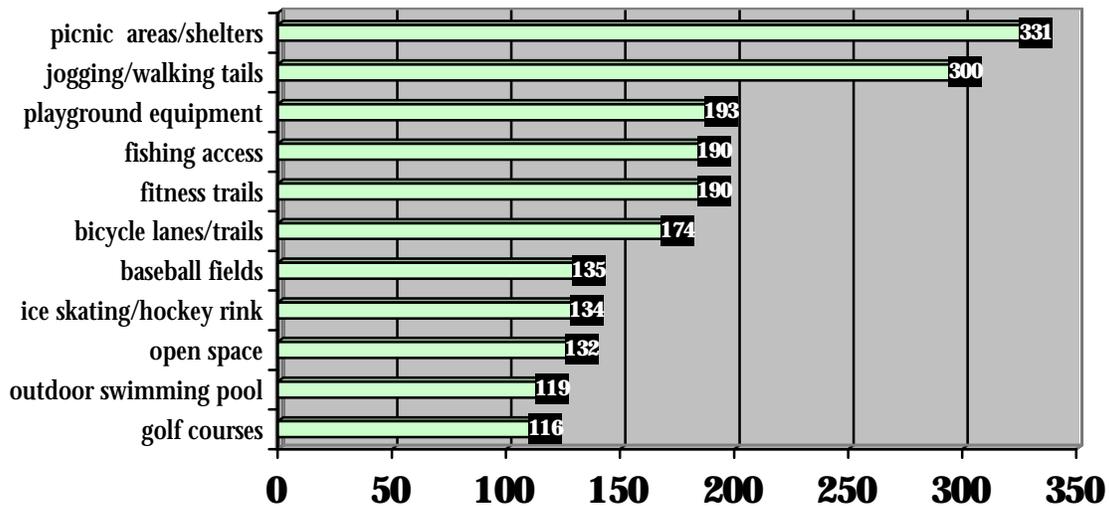
County Park	Never	1 x year	2-6 x year	6+ x year
Brady’s Run Park	9%	16%	35%	40%
Brush Creek Park	36%	23%	21%	20%
Old Economy Park	53%	23%	15%	8%
Buttermilk Falls	92%	6%	2%	0%

7. Please check the recreation facilities that your household currently uses and those you feel need to be provided, added or expanded.

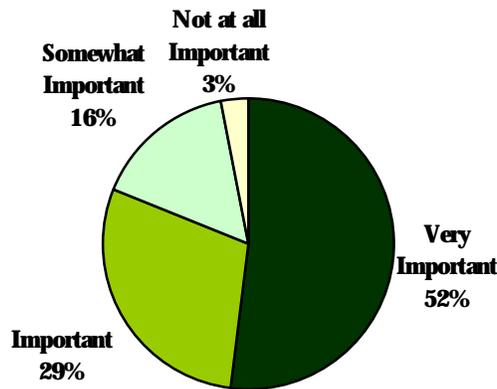
The top ten facilities that respondents feel need to be provided, added, or expanded are identified below. Trail types were the top three responses, receiving a majority of votes.



The top facilities that respondents currently use are identified below.



8. How important is a Countywide (Public/Private) Open Space System that protects natural areas such as streams, woodlands and farms?



9. Please check the appropriate box for the response that best represents your view on each of the following statements.

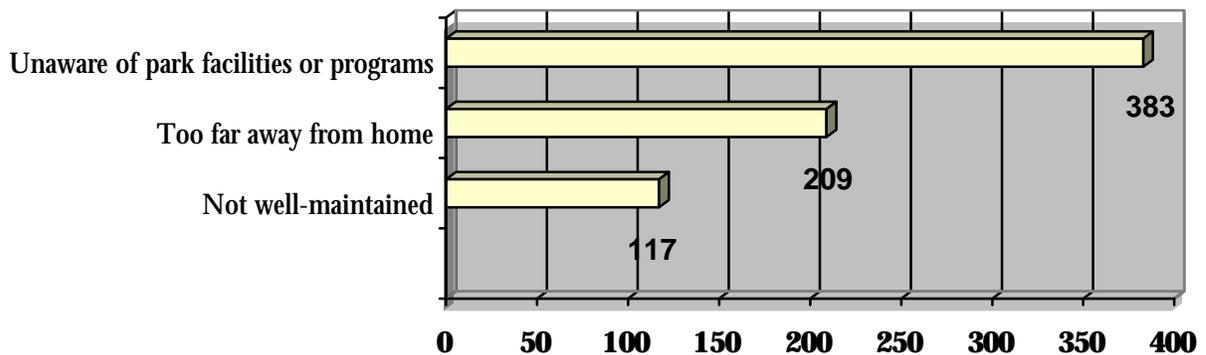
	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
1 I am satisfied with recreation facilities and programs in my municipality.	6%	41%	39%	13%
2 I am satisfied with the County Parks and Recreation Facilities.	6%	54%	33%	6%
3 I am satisfied with the current County Recreation Programs.	5%	47%	40%	8%
4 The care/maintenance of County Parks is adequate.	8%	63%	21%	8%

10. Please check the appropriate box for the response that best represents your view on each of the following statements regarding recreation, parks, and open space within the county.

		Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
1	I would support the county contracting with private companies to operate facilities within the county parks.	14%	52%	25%	9%
2	I would support the development of winter recreation facilities.	23%	61%	11%	4%
3	I would support a county operated golf course.	14%	33%	32%	21%
4	I would be willing to pay a fee to use new county facilities.	11%	54%	21%	14%

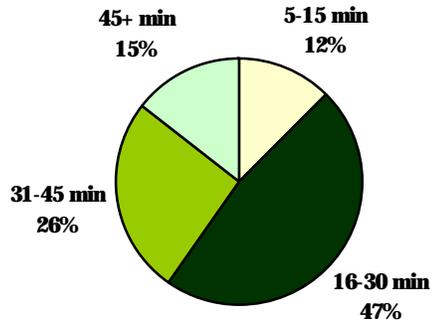
11. What factors prevent members of your household from using facilities or attending programs?

The top three responses are identified below. Most respondents are unaware of existing facilities and programs.



12. How much time would you/your household be willing to spend to travel to a regionally significant park or special event?

Almost half of the respondents are willing to travel 16 to 30 minutes.



13. Please circle the number of people in your household in each age category.

The households of the survey respondents are similar to the overall demographics for Beaver County.

<i>Age</i>	<i>2000 Census</i>	<i>Survey Households</i>
<i>Under 5</i>	<i>5.4%</i>	<i>9%</i>
<i>5-9</i>	<i>6.4%</i>	<i>5%</i>
<i>10-14</i>	<i>6.8%</i>	<i>7%</i>
<i>15-19</i>	<i>6.6%</i>	<i>7%</i>
<i>20-44</i>	<i>32.2%</i>	<i>30.5%</i>
<i>45-64</i>	<i>24.2%</i>	<i>28%</i>
<i>65+</i>	<i>18.4%</i>	<i>13.5%</i>

Section 3.4

KEY PERSON INTERVIEWS

The public input process of this Plan was enhanced by the inclusion of key person interviews. Members of the Study Committee identified individuals who they felt could provide valuable input regarding recreation, parks, and open space in Beaver County. This technique was an additional way to understand and document the needs of County residents. Twenty-five interviews were conducted. The following is a complete summary of interview responses. Numbers in parenthesis next to some responses indicate the total number of a times the response was given, when more than once.

1. What are the strengths of the Beaver County Parks System?

Brady's Run County Park (8), *particularly the park's:*

- Lake (2)
- Tennis facility (5)
- Ice Arena (6)
- Walking facilities (2)
- Security
- Adequacy and availability of pavilions/facilities (2)
- Beauty (3)
- Maintenance (2)
- Hockey facility
- Upgrades
- Variety of options (2)

Other:

- Brush Creek Park (2)
- Good location dispersal (3)
- Size and acreage of parks (3)
- Excellent parks system overall (2)
- That there is a system (2)
- Location of parks in terms of natural preservation opportunities
- Accessibility (4)
- Wide range of ages and interests covered (3)
- Well maintained
- Trails

2. What are the weaknesses of the Beaver County Park's System?

- The perceived quality of the parks: the image isn't positive even though it is a good system
- Not aesthetically pleasing (2)
- Maintenance (2)
- Have separate and more walking and biking trails
- Not enough physical improvements/upgrades (2)

- Playground equipment (2)
- Picnic tables
- Shelters
- Grills
- Brady's Run restrooms
- Tennis courts
- Soccer facilities
- Softball facilities
- Signage and trail markings
- Mapping
- Because of the large size, it is financially difficult to upgrade
- No counterparts in the southern portion of the County (2)
- County hasn't fully appreciated the value of the natural portions of the parks
 - No plan to avoid overdeveloping parks and open space
- Not enough activities
- Brush Creek does not need a ski slope
- Lack of a ski slope
- Need to better maintain existing facilities before planning for additional facilities
- Providing information and communicating available amenities (2)
- Not enough winter recreation
- Not enough canoes at lake
- Ice Arena closed on Thanksgiving and New Years Day.
- Need to be better integrated into surrounding areas
- Trail system should be linked throughout the community
- Improve bathrooms, add running water (2)
- Not enough parks

3. Are there specific facilities the County should consider adding to the County Park System?

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>No (3)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Just need to change the way things are offered Except for improved bathroom facilities More important that what exists is properly maintained and upgraded | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Winter park facility at Brush Creek Park with lodge and recreational opportunities (3) Skateboard park (2) Overall appropriate upgrading Better maintenance of existing trail system |
| <p>Yes (9)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> More trails (3) More restrooms Softball fields Outdoor track Walking track at Brady’s Run not well lit Widen road in Brush Creek to enable safe walking Better trail markings at Brush Creek Indoor soccer facility | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> County park in southern section of County More indoor facilities Lake swimming options at Brady’s Run and Raccoon State Parks <p>Don’t know</p> |

4. What do you feel is the most urgent need facing parks and recreation in Beaver County?

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cleaning up the parks Image enhancement Trails Identifying and marketing to young adult recreational needs <li style="padding-left: 20px;">In-line skating <li style="padding-left: 20px;">Mountain biking <li style="padding-left: 20px;">Ultimate Frisbee Maintenance and upkeep (6) Developing a plan to maintain the natural resources of the parks | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain existing trail system Update playground equipment Obtaining additional lands Costs of maintenance None Existing facilities upgrades (2) Underdeveloped rivers-County should evaluate recreational options Seems good progress has been made Don’t know |
|---|---|

5. Are there any locations in the County that could benefit from additional County Parks and/or recreation services? If so, where and what?

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>No (3)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multi-purpose facility Northwestern Beaver County Riverfronts Reference 1993 Beaver County Natural Heritage Inventory Aliquippa needs something |
| <p>Yes (7)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Southern Beaver County (4) <li style="padding-left: 20px;">Hopewell could tie-in to Raccoon Creek State Park <li style="padding-left: 20px;">Create a critical mass of recreation to draw in residents of Hopewell, Bridgewater, etc. Tie-in to Raccoon Creek State Park. | <p>Don’t know (3)</p> |

6. Should the County provide more recreational programming? If so, what kinds of programs? (festivals, camps, interest groups, etc.)

No (5)

Unless there are excess funds after sufficient upgrades and maintenance of existing facilities.

Facilities should be more of a County priority than programs. (2) Better communication of what exists now.

Yes (8)

Softball
Biking
Hiking
Camps/Camping (3)

Festivals (2)
Adult Education
Crafts
Bus Tours
More organized activities (2)
 Identify needs
After school programs
Antique dealers and other special features
Passive recreation (2)
Cultural opportunities (2)
Ages 10 and under
Ages 55 and over
County/YMCA programs

7. How can Beaver County develop stronger public support for parks and recreation services?

Better communicate what is available (11)

Engage in a public awareness program
Use tourism and media agencies to advertise offerings (2)

Publicize when events are taking place

Recreation ought to be more focused on coordinated/County-wide projects and events
Leadership and vision of County for recreation needs to be stronger-get people in place on the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board that have a strong interest in these issues (2)

Market and maintain existing system-improve image

Better maintenance

County should merge with other community agencies in cooperative efforts

Continue and improve upon things such as the Maple Syrup Festival

There is strong support existing
More public and private partnerships to fund services

Parks need to provide information to municipalities so that they may help in publicizing

Establish a better rapport with community leaders (municipalities) (2)

Sponsor more activities in which people are interested

8. Do you have an opinion on the current parks and recreation management and administration?

No (5)

It's terrible

It ought to be its own separate entity (4)

The Recreation Department may be at a disadvantage by being part of the Department of Public Works and not independent (3)

We need a parks and recreation board

Not enough resources exist

Management is doing a good job (4)

Management is doing well with what's available

Management is all right as long what exists continues to be maintained

Planning Commission has helped to secure grants

Management and administration is progressive

9. From your experience(s), do you feel the County Parks are well maintained?

No (5)

Not as well as they should be (2)
Trail maintenance sorely inadequate
Too much grass mowing

Yes (11)

Everything besides trail maintenance is acceptable
Has improved in recent years (2)

10. Do you feel there are any age brackets under served by the County's recreational areas?

No (7)

Recreation is diverse (2)

Yes (5)

Youth under age 16
Youth under age 10

Kids can't get to parks unless others drive them

All ages
Young adults
Senior citizens (3)
Teenagers

11. What kind of relationship should exist between Beaver County and:

Municipalities that have parks and recreation departments?

Don't Know

Technical expertise could flow from County to local municipalities (2)
Strong communication-more interaction in planning and establishing what exists (7)
Avoid duplication of services and facilities (4)
Representation from stronger municipalities
Create a stronger authority (board) with members aware of public's desires
Construct a single vision of service (2)
Must follow through on Comprehensive Plan objectives
A cooperative, collaborative, integrated, and coordinated relationship-ensuring all parties know what is available (4)

There should be a coalition of municipalities in order establish plans and identify needs
A highly communicative relationship
Cooperation in summer programming
Allow County to run programs
County should provide publicity (2)
County should to provide leadership
Share specialized, portable equipment
An open, compliment, cooperative, coordinated relationship in promotion
A relationship that shares resources and an awareness of what's going on
As existing

Municipalities with parks, but no departments?

No relationship

Establish an authority (whether it be a person or board)
Create regional recreational boards for these situations
Contract out maintenance to different parks at different times to ensure proper and consistent upkeep
Publicity and promotion by County (2)
Establish a department
A cooperative and integrated relationship so that all parties involved know what is available

County could help in providing programs
Better communication (2)
County could assist in providing resources, such as technical assistance, grants, planning, and maintenance (6)
County Planning Commission should act as advisors
Not much of a relationship should exist-
County should only help in financial situation if possible and when necessary
Don't know

Municipalities with no parks in their jurisdiction?

None (4)

County could offer resources in establishing a park (10), such as:

Grant writing

Technical assistance/Information (4)

Planning

Programming

Depends upon municipality's motivation

County in leadership role: group municipalities in making and/or establishing a parks and recreation plan (2)

County needs to establish a framework for municipalities on how things should be done and prioritized.

12. Any additional comments?

People need to know more about available parks and recreation (2)

A parks and recreation board or authority needs established-more funding would probably come to an established entity with specific needs (2)

County needs to take better advantage of US Tennis Association funds

Trails program needs greater attention (3)

Complete a recreational trails study to identify how to link existing trails to County parks

Improve river access

Examine funding opportunities

Provide recreational areas with restrooms

Linkages are important and should be addressed as a priority

Create a management plan to preserve natural resources and avoid over-development

County should provide funding for recreation grants

Concentrate on linking Brady's Run Park trails with other trails in the County

Establish programs as a means to fund new projects

Model Montgomery County's municipal open space grant program

Increase cultural events

Increase awareness of ice arena for general public use (versus hockey or figure skating times)

More rental opportunities (bikes, canoes, etc.) in parks

County should increase partnerships with recreational organizations, i.e. YMCA, in providing recreation and also in linking health and recreation-related issues by way of new programs

Section 3.5

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

The existing 15-member Park and Recreation Advisory Board meets on a monthly basis. At the Board's October 2001 meeting, members were asked to identify and then prioritize issues, concerns, opportunities, etc. surrounding parks, recreation, and open space in the County.

Items identified by the Recreation Advisory Board included:

- r All park facilities maintenance should be included in recreation department maintenance responsibilities
- r Plan requires commitment of County Commissioners for implementation
- r Programming that brings in new park users
- r Maintain and better manage facilities
- r Publicity and advertising within the County
 - Increased marketing
 - Monthly Rec. Calendar
 - Allow other organizations publicity also
- r Update play equipment in County parks
- r Directional signage to recreational facilities
- r Recreation Dept. have full authority over maintenance staff
- r Access to Upper Beaver River: Beaver Falls to County Line
- r Need public transportation to parks
- r More evening facilities available
- r Open and operating concession area in Brady's Run Park Recreation Facility and other facilities
- r Offer more recreation opportunities in the southern part of the County
- r Need more professional in Parks and Rec. Dept. managing programs and facilities throughout the County
- r Need winter recreation facilities
- r Need family-oriented activities, events, and facilities
- r Need better cooperative effort between County and other recreation providers (local depts. colleges, clubs, etc.)

*Beaver County Comprehensive Recreation
and Parks Plan*

Chapter 4: How Do We Get There?

Section 4.1

RECOMMENDATIONS

This chapter presents the visioning process, strategies, and recommendations for the future of Beaver County's role in recreation, parks, and open space. All are based upon the in-depth inventory and analysis process as well as all of the public input gathered. The following vision and strategies form the blueprint for the future of Beaver County's recreation, parks, and open space for the next decade and beyond.

Included as part of the following recommendations are specific strategies for the implementation of the County's Comprehensive Recreation and Parks Plan. Information collected through both the public input process and the professional assessment was utilized to develop these strategies, which set forth a step-by-step plan for fulfilling the goals set forth by the County's Vision for the Future of recreation, parks and open space.

The recommendations are steps necessary to fulfill this Plan, and accordingly, achieve the Vision for the Future. Implementation of a Plan such as this is always subject to the fiscal and political climate present in any given year. Therefore, it is absolutely essential that the County monitor, review, and prioritize the strategies on an annual basis to enable successful implementation and funding.

Detailed information regarding funding sources to enable strategy implementation can be found in Appendix E.

This section presents recommendations for the future of Beaver County's Recreation, Parks and Open Space as the County works toward fulfilling its vision for the future. Included in the following sections are goals and specific strategies for each of the following categories:

- ✓ **Administration**
- ✓ **Financing**
- ✓ **Cooperative Efforts**
- ✓ **Marketing**
- ✓ **Facilities**
- ✓ **Programs**
- ✓ **Greenways and Open Space**
- ✓ **Maintenance**

Section 4.2

THE VISIONING PROCESS

Successful long-range planning begins with a Vision, or “picture”, of how recreation, parks and open space in Beaver County should evolve. By developing a methodology that works in simple, clear steps, an agency can understand and communicate to staff and the general public where it wants to go (the Vision) and exactly how it can get there (recommendations). This is especially important when soliciting support for a new program, special event or recreation facility. People will be more inclined to support an interesting, understandable, and thoughtful endeavor in sync with their collective vision.

So then, how do residents of Beaver County see parks and recreation in their community years from now? We can find out by analyzing the results of the public participation process, including study group meetings, public input sessions, key person interviews and the results of the recreation questionnaire. This analysis reveals that certain ideas (or vision elements) are consistently mentioned throughout the process. These ideas were grouped into the vision elements listed below. The elements were then used to form the Vision narrative.

Public Input Summary

- r Create additional programming in environmental, cultural, and special events areas.
- r Develop new pedestrian and bicycle trails.
- r Create winter recreation facilities (sledding, tubing, etc).
- r Market the County’s recreation and parks system. Inform residents of where parks and recreational areas are in the County.
- r Have the County Recreation Department be responsible for the maintenance of the County Parks.
- r Create additional recreational opportunities in the southern half of the County.
- r Maintain and enhance scenic views and greenspace.
- r Increase cooperative efforts with municipalities.
- r Establish County programming in Raccoon State Park.
- r Ensure the support of the Plan from County officials.

Section 4.3

THE VISION STATEMENT

Throughout the next fifteen years, the Beaver County recreation, parks, and open space system will grow and strengthen, adding to a high quality of life enjoyed by residents. The following narrative is the vision for this future...

Building upon current achievements, Beaver County will boast a comprehensive, coordinated system of recreation and open space opportunities provided by the State, County, local municipalities, and private entities. The County shall actively support the availability of recreation facilities and activities for people of all ages and interests.

The County's four parks (Brady's Run, Brush Creek, Old Economy, and Buttermilk Falls), in conjunction with Raccoon Creek State Park, offer a variety of regional recreational opportunities throughout the County. Working to offer facilities and activities within a reasonable distance of all county residents, County officials will collaborate with the State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources to increase awareness and use of Raccoon Creek State Park.

Every county resident lives within five to ten miles of at least one of the state or county parks in Beaver County. Through an aggressive public awareness campaign, the County will inform residents of where these facilities exist and of the Parks and Recreation Department's efforts. The Department will monitor program enrollment and facility use to ensure the availability of the necessary and desired opportunities.

Natural resource protection will continue to be an essential part of the County's recreation and open space system. County officials will support the efforts of local, regional, and state partners, both public and private, to implement an interconnected system of greenways and natural open spaces.

Collaboration and communication are the cornerstones of a successful Beaver County recreation, parks, and open space system. County, state, and local officials will collaborate to provide an efficient and widely available system. The key to this success will be the amply-staffed Beaver County Recreation Department, which will manage, maintain, promote, and expand the Beaver County parks and open space system. A county park improvements plan will be implemented to ensure safe and attractive county park facilities.

Section 4.4

STRATEGY GOALS

Included for each category is a goal for the future of recreation, parks and open space in Beaver County. The goals are broad in nature and are designed to be all encompassing, based upon community ideas and issues raised through the planning process. The goal statements reflect the themes that were identified through the public input process and illustrated in the vision for the future. These goals also provide the organizational structure for the implementation of the Plan recommendations and direction for the future of recreation, parks and open space in Beaver County.

<i>Topic</i>		<i>Goal Statement</i>
I	Administrative	To provide an administrative structure that allows for the most efficient and effective management of Beaver County Parks and Recreation.
II	Financial	To fund a financial plan that will provide adequate funding for regular operations and long-term maintenance of Beaver County parks, open space, facilities, and recreation.
III	Cooperative Efforts	To foster inter-municipal cooperative efforts. Work to identify and cooperate with state, regional, and local partners to support a quality county recreation and open space system.
IV	Marketing	To actively publicize the available County recreation and open space facilities and activities.
V	Facilities	To develop, promote, and maintain a county recreation system that offers diverse opportunities for residents throughout Beaver County.
VI	Programming	To support local and countywide organizations, in providing recreational programming that will meet the needs of Beaver County residents. To offer regional recreation programming that is appropriate for County owned facilities. To supplement other recreational programming offered in the county.
VII	Greenways and Open Space	To designate, protect, and develop a county-wide system of greenways, trails, and natural open spaces, in collaboration with local governments and private land trusts. Outline a greenway system plan and work with municipal governments and local organizations to implement the system. Identify conservation opportunities.
VIII	Maintenance	To maintain all County-owned recreation facilities in a manner that assures their highest level of usefulness, provides visually attractive facilities, assures the safety of all users, and plans for the future. To implement a system of routine, non-routine, and preventative maintenance. To adopt a systematic plan for upgrading, rehabilitating and replacing equipment and facilities on a scheduled basis.

Section 4.5

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

The implementation strategies are organized into tables. The information provided includes categories for strategy priority, responsible party, cost estimate, and a space to record the completion of each strategy. These strategies are intended to provide guidance to the decision-makers of Beaver County and those organizations and staff designated to implement portions of the plan. The successful implementation of these strategies will depend upon the fiscal and political climate in any given year. Therefore, it is essential that the County monitor, review and prioritize the strategies on an annual basis prior to the budgeting process.

Each implementation strategy is assigned a Short (S), Mid (M), or Long (L) –term priority ranking. This prioritization was developed in light of input from the Study Committee, County officials, and the public. A short-term ranking suggests that the strategy be implemented in the first one to two years following the Plan’s adoption. A mid-term ranking represents implementation three to six years after adoption of the Plan. A long-term ranking identifies a strategy that should be implemented seven to ten years after the adoption of the Plan.

Section 4.6

I. Administration Strategies		Priority S, M, L	Responsible Party	Cost Estimate	Estimated Annual Operating Costs	Record of Action
1	Develop a comprehensive administrative structure assigning all aspects of County-level parks and recreation.	Ongoing	Recreation Director	None	None	Start _____ Complete _____
2	Adopt this Plan as the basis for the future of parks and recreation in Beaver County.	S	County Commissioners	None	None	Start _____ Complete _____
3	Adopt the Three-Tier Planning Process discussed in the administration section of this plan as the basis for its implementation.	S	County Commissioners	None	None	Start _____ Complete _____
4	Continue opportunities for public input through annual public meetings to reconfirm this Plan's priorities, refine goals, and add new implementation strategies.	S	County Commissioners	None	None	Start _____ Complete _____
5	Coordinate general operating and capital expenditures for all County Parks among the Department of Public Works and the Recreation Department.	S	Recreation Director	None	None	Start _____ Complete _____
6	Clarify the role of County Parks and Recreation in the County's tourist promotion program.	M	County Commissioners	None	None	Start _____ Complete _____

7	Develop a County Recreation Administrative Manual for the consistent delivery of policies and facilities information.	M	Recreation Director	N/A	N/A	Start _____ Complete _____
8	Coordinate general operating and capital expenditures for all County Parks among the Department of Public Works and the Recreation Department.	S	Recreation Director	N/A	N/A	Start _____ Complete _____
9	Produce an annual status report for submission to the County Commissioners.	S	Recreation Director	\$300.00	\$300.00	Start _____ Complete _____
10	Continue opportunities for public input through annual public meetings to reconfirm this Plan's priorities, refine goals, and add new implementation strategies.	S	County Commissioners	N/A	N/A	Start _____ Complete _____

Proposed Interim Administrative Plan for Beaver County Parks and Recreation

Roles and Responsibilities for:

County Commissioners

- \$ Adopt the Comprehensive Recreation and Parks Plan as the basis for building a strong parks and recreation program within the County.
- \$ Maintain ultimate responsibility for all parks and recreation operations
- \$ Supervise the Recreation Department in providing countywide recreation.
- \$ Supervise the Public Works Department in maintenance of the parks.
- \$ Establish a reasonable budget for both parks and recreation.
- \$ Provide for and fund a long-range capital plan for County Parks.
- \$ Appoint the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.
- \$ Maintain the vision for parks and recreation that the County residents have established through this plan.
- \$ Create a combined parks and recreation department within 5 - 10 years.

Public Works Department

- \$ Report to the County Commissioners
- \$ Administer the maintenance of all parks.
- \$ Plan for long-range maintenance and improvements.
- \$ Develop a capital plan specific to the County Parks.
- \$ Supervise contracts for park maintenance.
- \$ Perform all maintenance not under contract to an outside agency.

Recreation Department

- Report to the County Commissioners.
- Administer all county run recreation programming and facilities.
- Manage the operation of County Park facilities.
- Assure a balanced and comprehensive recreation program is available to the residents of Beaver County.
- Promote awareness of County recreation facilities and parks.
- Provide a recreation system that includes a sufficient diversity of areas and facilities to effectively serve a population with varied characteristics, needs, and interests.
- Provide a recreation system adequate to meet the leisure needs of Beaver County's population.
- Maintain recreational facilities and areas at a high level of excellence.
- Assume a leadership role in providing a wide range of recreational services through professional recreation personnel in supervision of recreational/athletics facilities in the Beaver County park system.
- Assist other agencies throughout the County in developing and conducting recreation programming at County facilities.
- Ensure communication is achieved between the Beaver County Department of Public Works and the Sheriff Departments in order to properly plan for events in the parks.
- Provide an effective administrative structure in order to enhance the entire Parks and Recreation program.
- Ensure that new and innovative programming is constantly being developed and implemented.
- Maintain reasonable and appropriate prices for the use of all County Recreational facilities and services.
- Provide efficient modern recreation facilities that are well maintained.
- Ensure that every individual in Beaver County has access to facilities and programs.
- Constantly seek funding for new recreational facilities and programming.

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

- \$ Reports to the county recreation director and the County Commissioners

The Board must focus on achieving the vision set for parks and recreation in the County as adopted by County Commissioners. Details of operating the parks and recreation programs remain the responsibility of the parks and recreation staff. Once County Commissioners adopt this Comprehensive Recreation and Parks Plan, it shall become the County's vision for parks and recreation for the future.

The Board should:

Play a lead role in keeping the County's vision current and focused. However, it remains the role of County Commissioners to adopt such changes as they see fit.

Serve in an advisory role to the Recreation and Public Works Departments, and the County Commissioners. County Commissioners shall give specific rights and/or responsibilities in which the Board may not need to make recommendations back to County Commissioners.

Be structured so that all stakeholders are represented on the Board and should geographically represent the County. Interests that should be represented on the Board should include but not necessarily be limited to the following:

- \$ non-athletic users
- \$ teens
- \$ seniors
- \$ families
- \$ athletic organizations
- \$ arts
- \$ swimming
- \$ park planning
- \$ natural resource conservation
- \$ open space

Include a County Commissioner.

Advise County Commissioners on all budgetary and policy matters that pertain to parks and recreation.

Serve as a community advocate for parks and recreation.

Monitor park facilities and make recommendation to County Commissioners for maintenance and/or improvements.

Assist in the publicity of the County Parks and Recreation programs.

Assist in the application for grants.

Encourage community groups to fill program deficiencies in the community.

Maintenance Staffing Analysis for Proposed Beaver County Parks and Recreation Department

This proposal is not designed to reduce the cost of maintenance in the parks. Neither does this proposal address the impact of such a change on the Public Works Department. Rather it is intended to provide a new direction for County Park maintenance that will raise the standard of priority and care to a higher level. The purpose of this study is to consider what is best for the County Parks and how to accomplish that.

Current Staffing

Brady's Run Park

6 FTE's (man hours totaling 12,480 hours)

Source: Inter-office Memo from Jim Camp to the County Commissioners dated September 17, 2002 concerning the Comprehensive Recreation and Parks Draft Plan.

Brush Creek Park

2.5 FTE's (Full-time foreman plus 2 men for 3 seasons of the year)

3 Temporary seasonal staff

Source: Interview with park foreman December 7, 2001

Old Economy Park

3.5 FTE's (Full-time foreman plus 4 men for three seasons of the year)

Up to 4 temporary seasonal staff

Source: Interview with park foreman December 7, 2001

Total Current FTE's in the county parks - 12

Proposed Staffing under a new Parks and Recreation Department

Brady's Run Park

1 Foreman

5 Fulltime Staff

6 Seasonal Staff

Brush Creek Park

1 Foreman

2 Fulltime staff

3 Seasonal Staff

Old Economy Park

1 Foreman

3 Fulltime Staff

4 Seasonal Staff

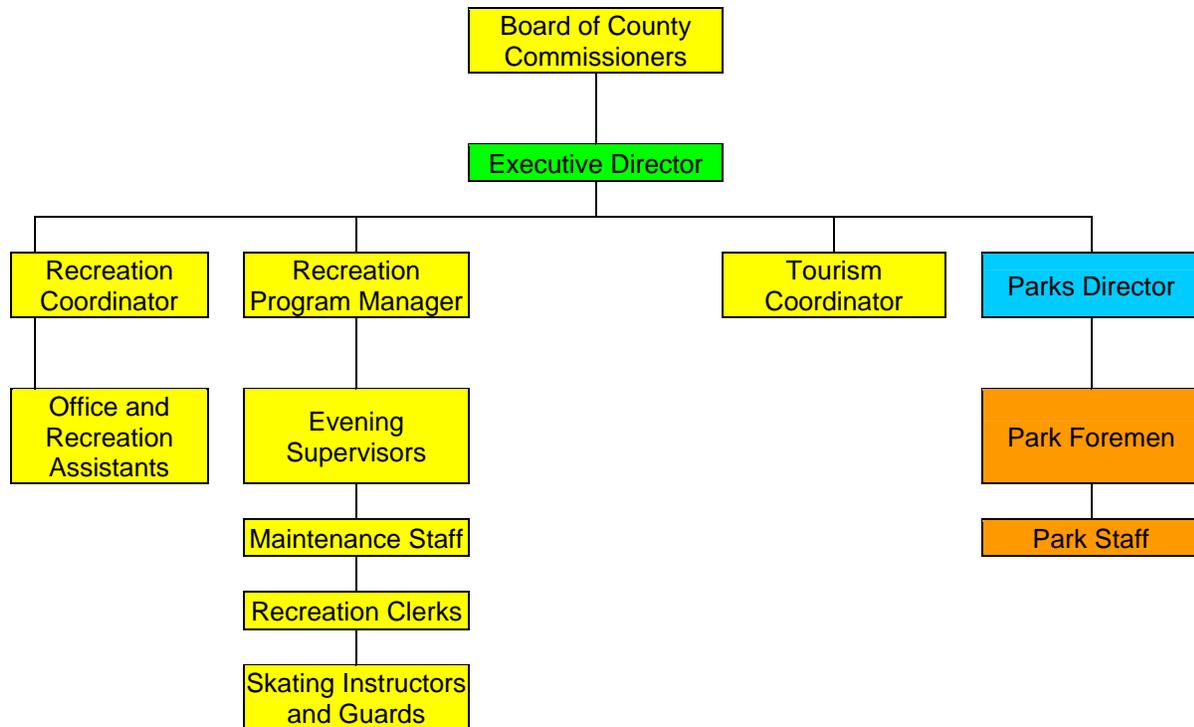
Total Proposed Fulltime Staff in the county parks – 13

A fulltime staff of thirteen employees would significantly improve the level of maintenance in all county parks while only adding one FTE to the number of man hours currently being utilized in the County Parks. Utilizing full-time, year-round staff will allow park maintenance functions to occur during the off season,

which will significantly enhance the quality of overall maintenance. Some of these staff could be made available for winter road maintenance in the Public Works Department as necessary.

This plan also calls for an additional position in the new department of Parks Director. That person would oversee and coordinate all park maintenance activity and staff.

Proposed Beaver County Department of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism



- Existing Positions under County Recreation Department
- Existing Position but now with new responsibilities
- New Position
- Existing Positions currently under Public Works

Typical Items included in an Operating Manual

This outline is not intended to be all-inclusive, but rather to demonstrate the types of items that should be included in an operations manual.

1. Organizational Structure
 - a. Legal documents creating the Department

- b. Statement of philosophy, goals and objectives
 - c. Organizational chart
 - d. Recreation Advisory Board Responsibilities
2. Personnel
 - a. Staff organizational chart
 - b. Personnel policies
 - c. County personnel policies impacting parks and recreation staff
 - d. Personnel forms
 - i. Applications forms
 - ii. Evaluation forms
 - iii. Employee information forms
 - iv. Other forms
 - e. Position descriptions
 - f. In-service training
 3. Financial
 - a. Financing plan
 - b. Procedures for handling income received on location
 4. Policy Statements (those adopted by the Commissioners that impact operations of parks and recreation)
 5. Facilities
 - a. An inventory of each park or recreation facility
 - b. Rules and regulations governing each facility
 - c. Permits
 - d. Procedures for using facilities
 6. Programming
 - a. Philosophy and goals concerning programming
 - b. Publicity procedures
 - c. Funding procedures and policies
 - d. Hiring procedures for program staff
 - e. Program evaluation forms
 - f. Procedures for programming by non-county organizations
 - g. Procedures for cooperative programming with other organizations
 7. County Ordinances related to parks and recreation
 8. Accident, Incident, And Safety
 - a. Risk Management Plan
 - b. Accident and incident procedures
 - c. First aid standards and procedures
 - d. Accident and incident report forms
 - e. Staff training
 9. Publicity and Advertising

Section 4.7

II. Financial Strategies		Priority S, M, L	Responsible Party	Cost Estimate	Estimated Annual Operating Costs	Record of Action
1	Develop and accept a financial plan.	S	County Commissioners	None	None	Start _____ Complete _____
2	Create a better system of tracking revenue and expenses for each park and/or recreation center at a level of detail that allows accurate reporting of revenue/expense comparisons for individual programs and/or facilities.	S	Recreation Director/Financial Administrator	Unknown	Unknown	Start _____ Complete _____
3	Maximize grants and other sources of non-tax funding. (DCNR, DCED, TEA 21, River Conservation Grants, etc.)	S	Recreation Director	None	None	Start _____ Complete _____
4	Develop a 10-year Capital Improvement Plan for long-range park and recreation improvements.	S	Recreation Director/County Commissioners	None	None	Start _____ Complete _____
5	Seek sponsorships and underwriters for special events and programming opportunities.	M	Recreation Director	None	None	Start _____ Complete _____
6	Produce an annual status report for submission to the County Commissioners.	M	Recreation Director	\$500	\$500	Start _____ Complete _____

Proposed Components of the Beaver County Parks and Recreation Financing and Funding Plan

1. Identify all cost centers or revenue centers within the Recreation Center for financial reporting purposes.
2. Establish a complete financial policy that would:
 - r Create individual cost centers
 - r Identify what types of programs and facilities the County should support, and at what level.
 - r Total funding
 - r Partial funding
 - r No funding
 - r Identify, for each cost center, how fees are to be determined
 - r Based on total program or facility costs
 - r Based on direct costs only
 - r Based on market conditions
 - r Based on other means
 - r Identify all costs to be considered when determining total program costs (direct costs, indirect costs, other department costs, etc.)
 - r Establish a target cost recovery for each cost center and/or for individual programs within a particular cost center.
 - r Track revenue and expense with sufficient detail to determine if programs and costs centers are meeting cost recovery projections.
 - r Compare revenues to expenses.
3. Create a non-profit foundation to receive contributions for parks and recreation expansion.
4. Increase use of grant funding for parks and recreation capital projects.
5. Produce an annual report for the department that will include program and facility highlights, attendance (listed by facility and program classification), financial data, goals and plans for the future, and a review of progress made toward the implementation of the Vision for the Future.

Capital Improvements Plan

Capital improvements have not been a priority in the County parks in many years. The result is that there are a number of significant improvements that need to be made. The deficiencies are not necessarily a result of poor maintenance, but rather a lack of financial commitment toward improvements. In fact, maintenance crews have done a commendable job of maintaining existing facilities that are in need of major repair, often using outdated equipment.

The County does not currently have a Capital Improvements Plan nor does it allocate annual funding in the budget for capital improvements. A Capital Improvement Plan would provide the County a means of planning for the future needs of the County parks. It would provide for scheduled repairs and replacement of major equipment and facilities rather than trying to manage and fund urgent or emergency situations that occur as a result of equipment failure or facility deterioration. Further, it allows the County to know the amount of funding that needs to be allocated on an annual basis for several years into the future.

The following priorities should be followed in funding capital improvements:

1. A Capital Improvements Plan needs to be established that prioritizes and plans for capital spending.
2. Performance of deferred maintenance needs to be the number one priority.
3. A Master Site Plan should be developed for each of the County Parks to provide direction for site improvements.
4. Investment in construction of new facilities should be limited until Master Site Plans have been completed and deferred maintenance has been completed.

5. Where possible, improvements should be completed in a way that provides for lower operations and maintenance costs for the future.
6. Adequate funding needs to be allocated to proper maintenance of existing and future equipment and facilities.

Capital improvements are addressed here as they relate to three areas:

1. Improvements to existing park facilities
2. Need for new facilities
3. Maintenance equipment

The following listing of deficiencies and projected costs assumes that repairs and improvements are made within the existing design and layout of the parks. Brady's Run Park, the largest park in the County system has the greatest demand for improvements.

Master Site Plans

There is currently no structure for planning and development within the county parks. Master Site Plans are needed to provide a framework for future improvements. The site planning process includes resident input to ensure that the resulting design is responsive to their needs. The resulting master plan establishes a clear goal which the county can work toward fulfilling. Master Site Plans for each county park will allow county officials to have a clear understanding of future development within the park system and allow them to budget for improvements accordingly.

General Deficiencies

Deferred Maintenance

The majority of deferred maintenance is generally related to buildings and structures. Many pavilions and shelters are in need of updated electric systems, new roofs, grading around the buildings, painting of the structure and tables, and ADA accessibility improvements. Most other buildings and structures within the parks have similar deficiencies. Additional facilities with significant deferred maintenance include:

Old Economy Park

- Horseshoe pits - repair
- Ballfield - improve for recreational, non-league use
- Basketball ½ court - remove
- BBQ grills - repair or replace

Brush Creek Park

- BBQ Grills - repair or replace
- Trail Signage - repair or replace

Buttermilk Falls

- Old tire removal

Brady's Run

- Soccer field - upgrade
- Tennis courts - repair as necessary

Playgrounds

Playgrounds were evaluated in this plan through a standard safety audit conducted by a Certified Playground Safety Inspector. The results show that most playgrounds pose significant hazards to park users. Much of the equipment needs to be removed immediately.

Playground equipment is scattered throughout the parks in an attempt to provide small amount of equipment at many locations. The current trend is to construct larger playgrounds at fewer locations. This generally improves safety and reduces construction and maintenance cost. This should be considered in all County parks.

Toilet and Restroom Facilities

Many of the restrooms throughout the park have been replaced or updated. However there are still several that need to be replaced.

Roads

The interior roads at Brady's Run Park are in poor condition. A standard needs to be developed to determine what types of roads surfaces (bituminous, aggregate, dirt, etc) and base construction should be used. All roads should be brought up to those standards

Parking

Parking throughout the parks is inadequate. Generally, there are only a few parking spots per pavilion. There is very limited parking at facilities such as the Brady's Run Lodge. The horse ring needs parking to accommodate trucks with trailers. And very few facilities have any handicapped accessible parking. Parking needs to be addressed in the master site plans.

Electric Services

The primary electric service throughout much of Brady's Run Park is outdated and/or in poor condition. Overhead wiring is sometimes connected to trees, and some is exposed and accessible to park users. Electric in existing structures is most often not enclosed in conduit, creating a safety hazard for users. Not all electric services meet current regulatory codes.

Park Capital Issues

Old Economy Park

Swimming Pool

The swimming pool is beginning to show signs of deterioration associated with its age. Before major improvements are completed on the pool, a feasibility study should be conducted. The feasibility study should evaluate the physical plant including the pool itself, circulation and filtration systems, sanitation system, decking, and buildings. It should be evaluated to determine if it meets current standards including the PA Bathing Code, BOCA, and the Americans with Disabilities Act. The study should also include analysis of use and demand, financial operations, management, and programming.

Tennis Courts

Determine the demand for these facilities and rehabilitate if the demand dictates.

Brush Creek Park

Tennis Courts

Determine the demand for these facilities and rehabilitate if the demand dictates.

Brady's Run Park

Horse Rings

The Horse rings are in need of significant upgrades. User groups have provided a listing or requested improvements.

Skate Park Facility

Currently a skate park does not exist. There has been significant input from County residents that one is needed. Brady's Run Park would likely be the most suitable location. Because the demand is immediate, consideration should be given to building the skate park prior to the completion of a master site plan.

New Facilities

Investment in new facilities should be limited until master site plans have been conducted for all County parks. The master site plans will assist the county in determining what new facilities should be considered and where they would best be located.

Brush Creek Winter Recreation Area

The only specific new facility considered in this plan was the Proposed Brush Creek Winter Recreation Area. An engineering study that was completed in 2000 analyzed the physical aspects of construction a ski slope but did not evaluate or analyze market conditions or demand for such a facility. Prior to considering the construction of this facility an in-depth market and demand analysis should be conducted. It should also be evaluated in light of the previous capital recommendations in this plan.

Maintenance Equipment

Maintenance equipment should be placed on a regular schedule for replacement. Much of the equipment currently used in the County Parks is outdated and in fair to poor condition. While very good regular maintenance has extended the life of much of the County' equipment, there comes a point when maintenance costs more than replacement. Because equipment has not been on a replacement schedule a larger amount of funding needs to be budgeted in the early years of the plan. The budget amount may be reduced once the replacement schedule is established.

Projections of Capital Costs

The following charts project estimate capital cost according to high, mid and long-term priorities. These charts should be used to understand the magnitude of need within the County park system. Projections in the mid- and long-term priorities may change once master site plans are completed for each park.

High Priorities - 1 - 3 years	Cost	Total Cost	Average Cost per Year
Deferred Maintenance at all parks	\$80,000 per year for 3 years	\$240,000	\$80,000
Master Site Plans (three parks)	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$50,000
Skate Park Design and	\$120,000	\$120,000	

Development			
Horse Ring Improvements (Completed in-house)	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$5,000
Maintenance Equipment Replacement	\$75,000 per year for 3 years	\$225,000	\$75,000
Playground Replacement 1 playground per year - total of 3 playgrounds in Brady's Run	\$200,000 per year	\$600,000	\$200,000
Total Cost for High Priorities		\$1,350,000	\$410,000

Mid-Range Priorities 4 - 6 years	Cost	Total Cost	Average Cost per year
Restroom Improvements replace pit older style pit toilets - 1 unit in each park	\$60,000 per unit	\$180,000	\$60,000
Electric Services	\$20,000 per year	\$60,000	\$20,000
Tennis Court Rehabilitation Does not include resurfacing	\$21,000	\$21,000	\$7,000
Swimming Pool Renovation	\$600,000	\$600,000	\$200,000
Playgrounds 2 at Old Economy Park 1 Playground at Brush Creek Park	\$200,000 per year for 3 years	\$600,000	\$200,000
Maintenance Equipment	\$40,000 per year	\$120,000	\$40,000
Total Cost for mid-term improvements		\$1,581,000	\$527,000

Long-term Priorities 7 - 10 years	Cost	Total Cost	Average Cost per year
Restroom Improvements Replace older style pit toilets - 2 units in each park	\$70,000 per unit	\$420,000	\$105,000
Parking Improvements	\$50,000 per year	\$200,000	\$50,000
Road Improvements	\$40,000 per year	\$160,000	\$40,000
Maintenance Equipment	\$40,000 per year	\$160,000	\$40,000
Total Cost for long-term priorities		\$940,000	\$270,000

Section 4.8

III. Cooperative Strategies		Priority S, M, L	Responsible Party	Cost Estimate	Estimated Annual Operating Costs	Record of Action
1	Encourage and assist local communities in cooperative programming and use of facilities between recreation agencies, municipalities, and school districts.	S	Recreation Director	TBD	TBD	Start _____ Complete _____
2	Explore a cooperative effort with the State (Department of Conservation and Natural Resources) to provide County-sponsored programming in Raccoon Creek State Park.	S	Recreation Director	TBD	TBD	Start _____ Complete _____
3	Cooperate with local municipalities in providing programming in community parks identified in this report to decrease duplication of efforts.	M	Recreation Director	TBD	TBD	Start _____ Complete _____
4	Explore a cooperative effort with PennDOT in order to provide a bike lane system in the County.	M	Recreation Director	TBD	TBD	Start _____ Complete _____

Section 4.9

IV. Marketing Strategies		Priority S, M, L	Responsible Party	Cost Estimate	Estimated Annual Operating Costs	Record of Action
1	Professionally assemble and distribute in bulk to all Beaver County households, a general brochure showcasing all of the County Parks. Information should include: -- Facility acreage and features --Park rules and regulations --Fees, rentals, and charges --Programs offered --Hours and seasons --Contact information	S	Recreation Director	\$20,000	\$10,000	Start _____ Complete _____
2	Assemble and distribute brochures specific to each of the four County Parks, detailing pertinent information such as facilities, hours, emergency information, trail difficulties, etc.	S	Recreation Director	\$10,000	\$10,000	Start _____ Complete _____
3	Implement comprehensive signage improvements including directional, interpretive, and entrance signage.	S	Director	\$25,000	--	Start _____ Complete _____
4	Publicize County-sponsored events.	S	Director	--	\$2,000	Start _____ Complete _____
5	Develop a County Parks web page that includes an on-line reservations system for facilities.	S	Recreation Director	\$10,000	\$3,000	Start _____ Complete _____
6	Establish a wayfinder system to better mark routes to County Parks from primary highways.	M	Recreation Director	\$6,000	--	Start _____ Complete _____

7	Obtain recreation scheduling computer software. Software designed specifically for recreation agencies enhances efficiency by way of simplifying shelter reservations, eliminating duplicate efforts, and tracking program finances.	M	Administrator	\$12,000		Start <hr/> Complete <hr/>
8	Develop a formal marketing plan for facilities and programs. The plan should include an assessment of the success and popularity of existing programs and facilities, focusing on the necessary measures to provide successful recreation services. The marketing plan should include: Develop a logo and slogan to symbolize the mission of the Department. These should appear on all printed materials and Department facilities. Develop a database for mailings distribution. Identify potential sponsors of mailings to defray costs.	M	Recreation Director	\$50,000		Start <hr/> Complete <hr/>

Section 4.10

V. Facilities Strategies		Priority S, M, L	Responsible Party	Cost Estimate	Estimated Annual Operating Costs	Record of Action
1	Develop a master plan for each County Park.	S	Recreation Director, Planning Commission			Start _____ Complete _____
2	Conduct annual Playground Safety Audits. Develop a safety inspection schedule, including pre-season and routine inspections.	S	Public Works Director	\$2,000	\$2,000	Start _____ Complete _____
3	Utilize Raccoon Creek State Park for County programs to fill desire for additional facilities in the southwest portion of the County.	M	Recreation Director	TBD	TBD	Start _____ Complete _____
4	Coordinate with the County Conservation District for a new Environmental Education Plan.	L	Recreation Director	TBD	TBD	Start _____ Complete _____
5	Conduct a feasibility study, including market and demand analyses, for any future proposed regional County-run recreational facility.	L	Recreation Director/ County Commission-ers	Dependent upon facility		Start _____ Complete _____

Section 4.11

VI. Programming		Priority S, M, L	Responsible Party	Net Cost Estimate	Net Estimated Annual Operating Costs	Record of Action
1	Create and maintain a database of program(s) attendance.	S	Recreation Director	\$500.00	\$500.00	Start <hr/> Complete
2	Add programming options for senior citizens that take place in County Parks.	S	Recreation Director	\$500.00	\$500.00	Start <hr/> Complete
3	Develop, distribute, and collect a program evaluation tool in order to elicit feedback and enable monitoring of program(s) status.	S	Recreation Director	N/A	N/A	Start <hr/> Complete
4	Expand recreational programming with new initiatives in cultural, environmental, and special events endeavors.	M	Recreation Director	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	Start <hr/> Complete
5	Offer new County programs in non-County Parks and facilities.	M	Recreation Director	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	Start <hr/> Complete
6	Host at minimum one County-sponsored event in each of the County Parks annually.	M	Recreation Director	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	Start <hr/> Complete
7	Work with local groups to coordinate transportation to County Parks during special events.	M	Recreation Director	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	Start <hr/> Complete
8	Look for additional program partnerships with school groups, local groups, local businesses, etc.	L	Recreation Director	N/A	N/A	Start <hr/> Complete
9	Establish a system and/or policy for accepting program requests.	L	Recreation Director	N/A	N/A	Start <hr/> Complete

Section 4.12

VII. Greenways and Open Space Strategies		Priority S, M, L	Responsible Party	Cost Estimate	Estimated Annual Operating Costs	Record of Action
1	Conduct a trails/greenways study in order to form an interconnected series of pathways throughout the County.	S	Recreation Director, Planning Commission	\$50,000.00	--	Start _____ Complete _____
2	Designate specific areas as "sanctuaries" for the protection of wildlife and other unique resources in County Parks, separate from development of any active recreational facilities.	S	Recreation Director	None	None	Start _____ Complete _____
3	Encourage communities in planning and facilitating the designation of greenway corridors.	S	Recreation Director	None	None	Start _____ Complete _____
4	Promote and offer educational program(s) focusing on the benefits of greenways.	M	Recreation Director	\$1,000	\$1,000	Start _____ Complete _____

Section 4.13

VIII. Maintenance		Priority S, M, L	Responsible Party	Cost Estimate	Estimated Annual Operating Costs	Record of Action
1	Implement a plan to upgrade and/or purchase major maintenance equipment needed within the parks.	S	Public Works Director	\$30,000	\$30,000	Start _____ Complete _____
2	Develop, accept, and implement a risk management plan.	S	Recreation Director/ Public Works Director	In-house hours		Start _____ Complete _____
3	Include a recreational staff liaison at the weekly Public Works scheduling meetings in order to improve communication.	S	Recreation Director/ Public Works Director	None	None	Start _____ Complete _____
4	Obtain Playground Safety Inspection Certification for at least one member of the Recreation Department.	S	Public Works Director	\$1,000.00	\$300	Start _____ Complete _____
5	Develop and implement an accepted maintenance plan.	L	Public Works Director	In-house hours		Start _____ Complete _____

*Beaver County Comprehensive Recreation
and Parks Plan*

*Beaver County Comprehensive Recreation
and Parks Plan*

Appendix A. Hydric and Hydric Inclusion Soils

HYDRIC SOILS - DEAVER AND LAWRENCE COUNTIES, PENNSYLVANIA

Map Symbol	Map Name	Hydric Component	Location Notes
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Map units with major components hydric:

AT	Atkins silt loam	Atkins (WV0008)	
BKA	Brinkerton silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Brinkerton (PA0090)	
BKB	Brinkerton silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	Brinkerton (PA0090)	
BKC	Brinkerton silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Brinkerton (PA0090)	
CA	Canadice silt loam	Canadice (NY0163)	
FNA	Frenchtown silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Frenchtown (OH0085)	
FNB	Frenchtown silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	Frenchtown (OH0085)	
HO	Holly silt loam	Holly (OH0032)	
FV	Purdy silt loam	Purdy (WV0034)	
REB	Rexford silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	Rexford (PA0017)	
SN	Sloan silt loam	Sloan (OH0060)	

Map units with inclusions of hydric components:

AGB	Allegheny silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes		
BCB	Braceville loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes		
BCC	Braceville loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes		
CDB	Canfield silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes		
CDC	Canfield silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes		
CEA	Cavode silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes		
CEB	Cavode silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes		
CEC	Cavode silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes		
CED	Cavode silt loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes		
CG	Chagrin silt loam		
CHB	Chill silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes		
COB	Conotton Gravely loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes		
COC	Conotton Gravely loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes		
DV	Dumps		
ERH	Ernest silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes		
ERC	Ernest silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes		
ESD	Ernest very stony silt loam, 8 to 25 percent slopes		

Purdy	Rexford, Frenchtown	Low flats
Rexford	Rexford, Frenchtown	Depressions, drainageways
Rexford	Rexford, Frenchtown	Depressions, drainageways
Frenchtown	Frenchtown	Depressions, drainageways
Brinkerton	Brinkerton	Depressions, drainageways
Brinkerton	Brinkerton	Depressions, drainageways
Brinkerton	Brinkerton	Depressions, drainageways
Holly	Holly	Bottom lands
Rexford	Rexford	Depressions
Rexford, Canadice	Rexford, Canadice	Depressions, drainageways
Rexford, Canadice	Rexford, Canadice	Depressions, drainageways
Holly, Brinkerton, Tyler 1/	Holly, Brinkerton, Tyler 1/	Bottom lands, depressions
Brinkerton	Brinkerton	Depressions
Brinkerton	Brinkerton	Depressions
Brinkerton	Brinkerton	Depressions

(OVER)

HYDRIC SOILS - BEAVER AND LAWRENCE COUNTIES, PENNSYLVANIA

Map Symbol	Map Name	Hydric Component	Location Notes
GTB	Guernsey silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	Wet spots	Depressions
GTC	Guernsey silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Wet spots	Depressions
GVB	Guernsey-Vandergrift complex, 3 to 8 percent slopes	Wet spots	Depressions
GVC	Guernsey-Vandergrift complex, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Wet spots	Depressions
GVD	Guernsey-Vandergrift complex, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Wet spots	Depressions
LB	Lobel silt loam	Holly, Sloan	Bottom lands
MOA	Monongahela silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Purdy	Depressions
MOB	Monongahela silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	Purdy	Depressions
MOC	Monongahela silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Purdy	Depressions
PH	Philo silt loam	Atkins, Holly	Depressions
PO	Pope silt loam	Holly, Atkins	Bottom lands
RAA	Ravenna silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Rexford, Frenchtown, Canadice	Bottom lands
RAB	Ravenna silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	Rexford, Frenchtown, Canadice	Depressions, drainageways
RAC	Ravenna silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Rexford, Frenchtown, Canadice	Depressions, drainageways
TSB	Tilait silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	Wet spots	Depressions, drainageways
TSC	Tilait silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Wet spots	Depressions, drainageways
TYA	Tyler silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Purdy, Brinkerton	Depressions, drainageways
TYB	Tyler silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	Purdy	Depressions, drainageways
UAB	Udorthents, strip mine, gently sloping	Wet spots I/	Depressions, drainageways
UAD	Udorthents, strip mine, moderately steep	Wet spots II/	Depressions, drainageways
UB	Urban land-Arendts complex	Atkins, Holly, Brinkerton	Depressions, drainageways
UCB	Urban land-Canfield complex, 0 to 8 percent slopes	Frenchtown	Bottom lands, depressions
UCD	Urban land-Canfield complex, 8 to 25 percent slopes	Frenchtown	Swales, depressions
UFB	Urban land-Conotton complex, 0 to 8 percent slopes	Purdy	Swales, depressions
UFD	Urban land-Conotton complex, 8 to 25 percent slopes	Purdy	Swales, depressions
UWB	Urban land-Wharton complex, 0 to 8 percent slopes	Brinkerton	Swales, depressions
UWD	Urban land-Wharton complex, 8 to 25 percent slopes	Brinkerton	Swales, depressions
VGD	Vandergrift-Gilpin complex, 15 to 35 percent slopes	Brinkerton	Swales, depressions
WIA	Wharton silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Brinkerton	Swales, depressions
WIB	Wharton silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	Brinkerton	Swales, depressions
W	Water	Brinkerton	Swales, depressions

I/ May need soil scientist's verification.

(OVER)

*Beaver County Comprehensive Recreation
and Parks Plan*

Appendix B. Beaver County Schools and School Districts

Beaver County Schools and Districts

1. Independence Elementary, Hopewell
2. Blackhawk Intermediate, Blackhawk
3. Blackhawk High, Blackhawk
4. Northwestern Elementary, Blackhawk
5. Highland Middle, Blackhawk
6. Big Beaver Falls Middle/High, Big Beaver Falls Area
7. Central Elementary, Big Beaver Falls Area
8. South Elementary, Big Beaver Falls Area
9. Patterson Elementary, Blackhawk
10. Koppel Elementary, Big Beaver Falls Area
11. Big Beaver Elementary, Big Beaver Falls Area
12. Riverside Primary Center, Riverside/Beaver
13. Riverside Middle/High, Riverside/Beaver
14. Physical Plant Corcoran, Big Beaver Falls Area
15. New Brighton Area Middle, New Brighton Area
16. New Brighton Elementary, New Brighton Area
17. Beaver Middle/Senior, Beaver Area
18. College Square Elementary, Beaver Area
19. Rochester Area, Rochester Area
20. C.J. Mangin Elementary, Monaca
21. Monaca Junior/Senior High, Monaca
22. Fifth Ward Elementary, Monaca

23. Big Knob Elementary, Freedom Area
24. Ambridge Area Junior High, Ambridge Area
25. Freedom Middle/High, Freedom Area
26. Conway Elementary, Freedom Area
27. Center Grange Elementary, Center Area
28. Todd Lane Elementary, Center Area
29. Center Area Junior/Senior, Center Area
30. Raccoon Elementary, Hopewell
31. Brighton Township Elementary, Beaver Area
32. Fairview Elementary, Western Beaver
33. Western Beaver Junior/Senior High, Western Beaver
34. Ray W. Snyder Elementary, Western Beaver
35. Hopewell Senior High, Hopewell
36. Aliquippa High, Aliquippa
37. Aliquippa Elementary, Aliquippa
38. Hopewell Junior High, Hopewell
39. Hopewell Elementary, Hopewell
40. Margaret Ross Elementary, Hopewell
41. Neel Elementary/Middle, Midland
42. South Side Area Middle/High, South Side Area
43. South Side Elementary, South Side Area
44. Economy Elementary, Ambridge Area
45. Ridge Road Elementary, Ambridge Area

46. State Street Elementary, Ambridge Area
47. Anthony Wayne Elementary, Ambridge Area
48. Highland Elementary, Ambridge Area
49. Ambridge Area Senior High, Ambridge Area

*Beaver County Comprehensive Recreation
and Parks Plan*

Appendix C. Railroad Segment Information

Rail Segments

ABANDONED:

SEGMENT NUMBER: 04_068
REGION: 10.0
RR NAME: ALQS
FROM:
TO:
LINE NAME: Aliquippa & Southern
STATUS: I.T.

SEGMENT NUMBER 04_343B
REGION: 10.0
RR NAME: CR
FROM: Ambridge
TO:
LINE NAME: Economy Sec'y
STATUS: Abandoned
MILEAGE: 1.75
YEAR ABANDONED: 1984

SEGMENT NUMBER: 04_068
REGION: 10.0
RR NAME: ALQS
FROM:
TO:
LINE NAME: Aliquippa & Southern
STATUS: I.T.

SEGMENT NUMBER 04_064
REGION: 10.0
RR NAME: PC
FROM: WV Border
TO: Shippingport
LINE NAME: New Cumberland Sec.
STATUS: Abandoned
MILEAGE: 4.8
YEAR ABANDONED: 1972
RAIL OWNERSHIP: Duquesne Light

SEGMENT NUMBER 04_066
REGION: 10.0
RR NAME: PLE
FROM: Beaver
TO: Vanport
STATUS: Abandoned.
MILEAGE: 3.0
LAST YEAR OPERATED: 1973
CONDITION: No Bridge @ Route 60

SEGMENT NUMBER 04_076
REGION: 10.0
RR NAME: CR
FROM: Blockhouse Run
TO: New Brighton

LINE NAME: Blockhouse Run/Hill Track
STATUS: Abandoned
MILEAGE: 1.5
YEAR ABANDONED: 1984

SEGMENT NUMBER 04_275B
REGION: 10.0
RR NAME: PLE
FROM: Koppel
TO: Lawrence Co.
LINE NAME: Elwood City Br
STATUS: Abandoned
MILEAGE: 2.7
YEAR ABANDONED: 1981

SEGMENT NUMBER 04_070
REGION: 10.0
RR NAME: YS
FROM: In Beaver Co.
TO:
LINE NAME: Youngstown & Southern
STATUS: O.O.S.
MILEAGE: 1.0
RAIL OWNERSHIP: Private
CONDITION: Rails In-Out of Service
RTT PROJECT: Little Beaver Creek Trail
RTT STATUS: Proposed

ACTIVE:

SEGMENT NUMBER: 04_275A
REGION: 10.0
RR NAME: CSXT (TRRY)
FROM: Lawrence Co.
TO: Allegheny Co.
LINE NAME: Main Line
STATUS: Active

SEGMENT NUMBER: 04_062C
REGION: 10.0
RR NAME: CR
FROM: Homewood Junction
TO: Allegheny Co.
LINE NAME: Ft. Wayne Line
STATUS: Active

SEGMENT NUMBER: 04_063
REGION: 10.0
RR NAME: CSXT (TRRY)
FROM: Monaca
TO: Shippingport
LINE NAME: Ohio River Br
STATUS: Active

SEGMENT NUMBER: 04_065
REGION: 10.0

RR NAME: CR
FROM: Rochester
TO: Ohio Border
LINE NAME: Cleveland Line
STATUS: Active

SEGMENT NUMBER: 04_067
REGION: 10.0
RR NAME: MDTR
FROM:
TO:
LINE NAME: Midland Terminal Company
STATUS: Active

SEGMENT NUMBER: 04_275A
REGION: 10.0
RR NAME: CSXT (TRRY)
FROM: Lawrence Co.
TO: Allegheny Co.
LINE NAME: Main Line
STATUS: Active

SEGMENT NUMBER: 04_036
REGION: 10.0
RR NAME: CR
FROM: New Brighton
TO: Lawrence Co.
LINE NAME: Youngstown Line
STATUS: Active

SEGMENT NUMBER: 04_035
REGION: 10.0
RR NAME: CR
FROM: Homewood
TO: Lawrence Co.
LINE NAME: Koppel Secondary
STATUS: Active

SEGMENT NUMBER: 04_029
REGION: 10.0
RR NAME: BPRR
FROM: Lawrence Co.
TO: Butler Co.
LINE NAME:
STATUS: Active

SEGMENT NUMBER: 04_062B
REGION: 10.0
RR NAME: CR
FROM: Homewood Junction
TO: Lawrence CO.
LINE NAME: Ft. Wayne Line
STATUS: Active

SEGMENT NUMBER: 04_062A
REGION: 10.0

RR NAME: CR
FROM: Ohio Border
TO: Lawrence Co.
LINE NAME: Ft. Wayne Line
STATUS: Active

SEGMENT NUMBER: 04_069
REGION: 10.0
RR NAME: YS
FROM: Ohio Border
TO: Darlington
LINE NAME: Youngstown & Southern
STATUS: Active

*Beaver County Comprehensive Recreation
and Parks Plan*

Appendix D. Recreation Facility Inventory

*Beaver County Comprehensive Recreation
and Parks Plan*

Appendix E. Funding and Support Sources

Potential Funding and Support Sources

21st Century Community Learning Centers Program

Agency	U.S. Department of Education
Program Goals	This program was authorized by Congress to award grants to rural and inner-city public schools, or consortia of such schools, to plan, implement, or expand projects that address the education, health, social services, cultural and recreational needs of the community.
Program Restrictions	School districts must collaborate with an outside entity, such as another public agency or nonprofit organization.
Use of Funds or Support	Applications must address four of the following program activities: literacy education programs; senior citizen programs; children's day care services; integrated education, health, social service, recreational or cultural programs; summer and weekend school programs in conjunction with recreation programs; nutrition and health programs; expanded library service hours to serve community needs; telecommunications and technology education programs for individuals of all ages; parenting skills education programs; support and training for child day care providers; employment counseling, training and placement; services for individuals who leave school before graduating from secondary school, regardless of age of such individual; services for individuals with disabilities.
Address	21 st Century Community Learning Centers Attn: CFDA 84.287 U.S. Department of Education Application Control Center Regional Office Building 3, Room 3633 7 th & D Streets, SW Washington, DC 20202-4725
Phone	1-800-USA-LEARN
Web Site	www.ed.gov/21stcclc

Americas Treeways

Agency	National Tree Trust
Program Goals	This program provides tree seedlings for planting on roadsides, highways, or land under the jurisdiction of any federal, state, municipal, or transportation authority.
Program Restrictions	Limitations include a minimum of 100 trees to a maximum of 10,000 trees. All trees delivered must be planted, and only volunteers may do the planting. The trees must be planted on public property.
Use of Funds or Support	Monetary grants are provided to local tree-planting organizations that support volunteer tree-planting and education efforts throughout the United States.
Address	Todd Nelson 1120 G Street Suite 770 Washington DC 20005
Phone	800-846-8733

Web Site <http://www.nationaltreetrust.org>

Baseball Tomorrow Fund

Agency Major League Baseball and Major League Baseball Players Association

Program Goals

To promote and enhance the growth of baseball in the US, Canada and throughout the world by funding programs, fields, and equipment purchases, designed to encourage and maintain youth participation in the game.

Program Restrictions

Use of Funds or Support

Grants from the Baseball Tomorrow Fund are designed to be sufficiently flexible to enable applicants to address needs unique their communities. The funds may be used to finance a new program, expand or improve an existing program, undertake a new collaborative effort, or obtain facilities or equipment necessary for youth baseball or softball programs.

Address

Baseball Tomorrow Fund
245 Park Avenue
New York, NY 10167

Phone

Cathy Bradley 212-931-7991 or email BTF@majorleaguebaseball.com

Web Site

www.majorleaguebaseball.sportsline.com/u/baseball/mlbcom/headquarters/btf.html

Best Buy Children's Foundation

Agency Best Buy

Program Goals

The Mission of the Best Buy Children's Foundation is to enhance the quality of life of school-age children in communities where Best Buy Co., Inc. maintains a presence **BB** through support of programs and organizations that offer leadership and educational opportunities. The Foundation invests in organizations and programs committed to making a difference in the lives of children. Emphasis is placed on innovative programs that promote personal achievement, mentor relationships and life skills, and accentuate learning opportunities for school-age children. Funding is directed to programs located in Best Buy market areas for children ages 5 to 18. All grants are given to 501(c)(3) organizations or organizations seeking this nonprofit status.

Program Restrictions

Funding is directed to multi-cultural programs located in Best Buy market areas for children ages 5 to 18. Applicants must be classified as IRS 501(c) (3) nonprofit organizations to qualify for funding.

Use of Funds or Support

The Foundation makes program development and project grants to organizations that meet the Foundation's funding priorities. Support for organizations includes program development, direct program support, curriculum development, student aid for participants in life skills or mentoring programs and volunteer time. Since 1994, the Foundation has impacted thousands of children through community grants supporting youth organizations in 39 states.

Address

Best Buy Children's Foundation
Community Relations Department
P.O. Box 9448
Minneapolis, MN 55440-9448

Phone

952-947-2650

Web Site

www.bestbuy.com

Canaan Valley Institute

Agency	Canaan Valley Institute
Program Goals	Promotes the development and growth of local associations committed to improving or maintaining the natural resources of their watersheds, in the Mid-Atlantic Highlands portions of PA, MD, VA and all of WV.
Program Restrictions	<p>In addition to technical assistance, CVI has a grant program for eligible groups. To be eligible, a group must be inclusive, and watershed or community based. Priority will be given to applications that will promote local capacity building and problem solutions.</p> <p>All pre-applications for assistance should be submitted to CVI by January, April, July, or October to be considered for funding at the next quarterly meeting of the Board of Directors. Once a pre-application is received, a project officer will begin working with your group to develop a final application.</p> <p>Most grant awards are limited to \$5,000. The Board will make their funding decisions at their quarterly meetings. These meetings are held on the second Thursday in April, June, September, and December. For more information about applying for technical assistance grants contact Jeanne Boury.</p>
Use of Funds or Support	Planning, implementation
Address	n/a
Phone	304-866-4739 1-800-922-3601 Jeanne Boury. email jeanne.boury@canaanvi.org
Web Site	http://www.canaanvi.org

Coastal Zone Management Program

Agency	Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)
Program Goals	Planning and construction in the Lake Erie and the Delaware Estuary Coastal Zones
Program Restrictions	<p>The program's diverse policies require a wide variety of work activities. The Pennsylvania Coastal Zone Management Program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Works closely with other organizations and agencies that have similar policy goals; Provides financial assistance for coastal improvement projects in the Lake Erie and Delaware Estuary coastal zones; Supports public outreach, education, and public input strategies, and publishes the program newsletter, Coastal Tidings; Monitors coastal wetland activities and investigates changes in coastal wetland acreage; Assists local administration and enforcement of the Bluff Recession and Setback Act, which protects public health and safety by requiring local zoning permits for development within bluff recession hazard areas along unstable Lake Erie bluffs; Evaluates federal, state and local activities in coastal areas to ensure consistency with coastal program policies; Provides technical assistance to Lake Erie property owners affected by shoreline erosion and bluff recession; Measures rates of shoreline erosion and bluff recession and works with other agencies in monitoring coastal activities. <p>Works with other states and federal agencies on coastal issues of regional or national importance.</p>
Use of Funds or Support	Planning, implementation
Address	The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection Coastal Zone Management Program P.O. Box 8555 Harrisburg, PA 17105-8555 Phone: 717-787-2529 Fax: 717-787-9549

Phone	717-787-5259
Web Site	http://www.dep.state.pa.us/dep/deputate/watermgt/WC/FactSheets/WS/fs2019.htm

Coca-Cola Foundation Grants

Agency	Coca-Cola
Program Goals	The Coca-Cola Foundation aims to provide youth with the educational opportunities and support systems they need to become knowledgeable about the world in which they live and better able to give back to their communities. Education is a fundamental means to help individuals reach their full potential. The Foundation, by committing its resources to education, can help to address society's greatest educational challenges and provide quality learning opportunities.
Program Restrictions	The Foundation does not make grants to: individuals; religious organizations and endeavors; political, legislative, lobbying or fraternal organizations; or organizations that do not have tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the equivalent.
Use of Funds or Support	The Coca-Cola Foundation encourages new solutions to countless problems that impede educational systems today, and it supports existing programs that work. Because the challenges for education are so broad, the Foundation's commitment is multifaceted. It offers support to public and private colleges and universities, elementary and secondary schools, teacher-training programs, educational programs for minority students and global educational programs.
Address	The Coca-Cola Foundation, Grants Administration P.O. Drawer 1734 Atlanta, Georgia 30301
Phone	402-676-2121
Web Site	www.thecoca-colacompany.com

Coldwater Heritage Partnership

Agency	Partnership between DCNR, PA Fish & Boat Commission and Trout Unlimited
Program Goals	Grants are available to prepare preliminary watershed assessments summarizing the values and threats to the health of coldwater ecosystems. Where appropriate, the assessment process can help build consensus for detailed watershed studies and projects, including planning grants available through DCNR's Rivers Conservation program. CHP grants for up to five thousand dollars (\$5,000) are available to eligible applicants.
Program Restrictions	Cooperating organizations such as watershed associations, land trusts, TU chapters, conservancies, sportsmen groups and conservation districts can participate on behalf of local government officials as grant applicants. Township and other municipalities, counties and municipal authorities can also participate. The plan of work for developing a Preliminary Watershed Assessment should include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Notify all municipalities in the watershed about the grant being awarded; including an explanation of the project. 2. Schedule public informational meetings in the watershed to explain the project and process that will be used to prepare an assessment. 3. Prepare a draft Preliminary Watershed Assessment. 4. Present the Preliminary Watershed Assessment at the second public informational meeting. Solicit comments and support. 5. Prepare Final Preliminary Watershed Assessment and submit to DCNR.
Address	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Coldwater Heritage Partnership P.O. Box 8475 Harrisburg, PA 17105-8475
Use of Funds or Support	Planning, implementation

Phone

717-787-2316

Web Site

<http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/rivers/coldwaterinfo.htm>

Community Conservation Partnerships Programs

Agency

Department of Conservation & Natural Resources

Program Goals

To develop and sustain partnerships with communities, non-profits and other organizations for recreation and conservation projects and purposes. The Department's Bureau of Recreation and Conservation is responsible for fostering, facilitating and nurturing the great majority of these partnerships through technical assistance and grant funding from the Community Conservation Partnerships Programs.

Program Restrictions

See DCNR grant application manual for the Community Conservation Partnerships Program, as program restrictions vary by type.

Use of Funds or Support

Planning and Technical Assistance

- \$ Comprehensive Recreation, Park and Open Space Plans
- \$ Conservation Plans
- \$ County Natural Area Inventories
- \$ Feasibility Studies
- \$ Greenways and Trails Plans
- \$ Rails-to-Trails Plans
- \$ Master Site Plans
- \$ River Conservation Plans
- \$ Education and Training
- \$ Peer-to-Peer
- \$ Circuit Rider

Acquisition Projects

- \$ Park and Recreation Areas
- \$ Greenways, Trails and Rivers Conservation
- \$ Rails-to-Trails
- \$ Natural and Critical Habitat Areas

Development Projects

- \$ Park and Recreation Areas
- \$ Park Rehabilitation and Development
- \$ Small Community Development
- \$ Greenways and Trails
- \$ Rails-to-Trails
- \$ Rivers Conservation

Federally Funded Projects

- \$ Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Projects
- \$ Pennsylvania Recreational Trails

Address

Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
Bureau of Recreation and Conservation
Southcentral Regional Field Office
P.O. Box 1554
Harrisburg, PA 17105-8475

Phone

717-772-4362
717-705-2943 - Fax

Web Site <http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us>

Community Development Block Grants

Agency US Dept. Of Housing and Urban Development

Program Goals To provide a flexible source of annual grant funds for local governments nationwide C funds that they, with the participation of local citizens, can devote to the activities that best serve their own particular development priorities, provided that these projects wither (1) benefit low and moderate income person; (2) prevent or eliminate slums or blight; or (3) meet other urgent community development needs.

Program Restrictions Low and moderate income persons (generally defined as members of a family earning no more than 80 percent of the area median income) benefit mostly directly and most often from CDBG funded activities. Grantees must use at least 70 percent of CDBG funds for activities that principally benefit low and moderate income persons.

Use of Funds or Support Building public facilities and improvements, such as streets, sidewalks, sewers, water systems, community and senior citizen centers and recreational facilities. There are other possible uses of funds that do not relate to parks and recreation.

Address Allegheny County
Office of Economic Development
425 Sixth Avenue, Suite 800
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Phone 412-350-1000
412-642-2211 - Fax

Web Site www.county.allegheny.pa.us/economic/index.asp

Community Improvement Grants

Agency Pennsylvania Urban and Community Forestry Department

Program Goals Focus is to support Agreening@partnerships linking grassroots organizations, local community groups and natural resource experts in support of community resource management and natural resource.

Program Restrictions N/A

Use of Funds or Support Encourages partnerships with and between diverse organizations and groups. Supports local improvement projects, tree planting projects in parks, greenbelts, schools, and community public spaces.

Address Mark Remcheck
Washington County Cooperative Extension Office
Room 601
Courthouse Square
Washington, PA 15301

Phone 412-228-6881
412-228-6939 - Fax

Web Site N/A

Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)

Agency Natural Resources Conservation Service

Program Goals Designed to reduce erosion on sensitive lands, CRP also improves soil and water, and provides significant wildlife habitat.

Program Restrictions Applications are for 10 and 15 year contracts.

Use of Funds or Support	The CRP offers annual rental payments, incentive payments for certain activities, and cost-share assistance to establish approved ground cover on eligible cropland.
Address	RR#12, Box 202 C Greensburg, PA 15601-9271
Phone	724-834-9063 ext. 3 724-837-4127 - Fax
Web Site	www.pa.nrcs.usda.gov/programshom.htm

Conservation Technical Assistance

Agency	Natural Resources Conservation Service
Program Goals	NRCS provides assistance to land-users for developing and implementing conservation plans on their lands. Each farmer's unique circumstances and needs are carefully considered, and soil types and other resources are evaluated before making conservation recommendations.
Program Restrictions	N/A
Use of Funds or Support	Conservation practices such as fencing to apply intensive grazing practices, or no-till planting directly into the previous crop residue bed are planned and applied to quality and soil health. NRCS also works with landowners to develop and implement animal waste and nutrient management plans. These plans provide for wet and dry storage systems as well as the efficient management and use of those nutrients as fertilizer on the land. NRCS works with producers during planning to consider the overall impact on the land and the other plants, animals, and wildlife who live there as well as economic factors and the sustained use and productivity of the resources.
Address	RR#12, Box 202 C Greensburg, PA 15601-9271
Phone	724-834-9063 ext. 3 724-837-4127 - Fax
Web Site	www.pa.nrcs.usda.gov/programshom.htm

Dirt and Gravel Road Maintenance

Agency	State Conservation Commission
Program Goals	This is available to local municipalities and state agencies who have jurisdiction over dirt and gravel roads. Groups may be able to work with their local municipality regarding projects dealing with best management practices for erosion and sedimentation control problems and fugitive dust in watersheds.
Program Restrictions	<p>Eligible expenses include all Program and project costs associated with the administration and implementation of the Program, and the design, review, approval, implementation and maintenance of any project approved and funded by the Program. Eligible costs payable to project participants for Program projects and eligible costs payable to conservation districts for the overall administration and implementation of the Program will be determined by the Commission.</p> <p>(b) Eligible expenses for project participants include the materials, services and labor required to design and implement a project, including, but not limited to, construction and maintenance supplies and materials, equipment rental and transportation charges, demurrage, reimbursement for use of participant owned equipment, salaries and benefits, automotive and hauling travel including room and board expenses, contracted specialized services, miscellaneous expenses, certain engineering and technical fees as determined by the Commission and other expenses necessary for the satisfactory completion of a project as determined by the Commission.</p> <p>(c) Eligible expenses for participating conservation districts shall include eligible costs defined in subsections (a) and (b) for project participants, plus materials, services, labor, insurance/liability coverage and all other expenses necessary for the overall administration and implementation of the Program, the development and delivery of training/education programs, demonstration projects, resource assessment, site inspections and other expenses determined by the Commission to be necessary to administer and implement the Program.</p>
Use of Funds or Support	Planning, implementation

Address	Harrisburg, PA
Phone	717-787-8821 or local County Conservation District
Web Site	http://www.pacode.com/secure/data/025/chapter83/subchapFtoc.html

Disposal of Federal Surplus Real Property for Parks, Recreation, and Historic Monuments

Agency	U.S. Department of the Interior
Program Goals	This program transfers surplus federal real property to state and local governments to use for public park, recreational, and historic purposes.
Program Restrictions	Property conveyed for park, recreational, and historic purposes must be used for these purposes or be returned to federal ownership. Applicants must agree to manage the property in the public interest and for public use. Only properties listed or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places may be transferred through the Historic Surplus Property Program. The applicant must submit an application, proposed program of use for the property, and evidence of its ability to finance the program. Additionally, applicants under the Historic Surplus Property Program must submit an architectural plan.
Use of Funds or Support	Property conveyed for park, recreational, or historic purposes must be used for these purposes or they must be reverted to federal ownership.
Address	Marie Rust Regional Director National Park Service, Northeast Region U.S. Custom House 200 Chestnut Street, 5th Floor Philadelphia PA 19106
Phone	215-597-7013
Web Site	http://www.nps.gov

Environmental Education Grants Program

Agency	Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)
Program Goals	The Environmental Education Act of 1993 sets aside 5% of the pollution fines and penalties collected each year to stimulate environmental education in Pennsylvania. The goal is to develop new environmental education programs or improve the quality of existing programs.
Program Restrictions	This is a reimbursement program. Awards do not exceed \$10,000. A 25% match is required of all granted organizations, except for county conservation districts.
Use of Funds or Support	Grants may be used to purchase materials, equipment, and other resources. Funding may also provide public and private schools for youth environmental education. Also, to promote conservation and education organizations and institutions for the purpose of providing environmental education training to teachers, county conservation districts and Bureau of State Parks Environmental Education Program or be used for training, in-service workshops, staff salaries, some transportation costs, speakers, substitute costs, and more.
Address	Sandra Titel - Environmental Education Grants Program Administrator Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection Environmental Education Grants P.O. Box 2063 Harrisburg PA 17105
Phone	717-772-1828
Web Site	http://www.dep.state.pa.us

Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

Agency	Natural Resources Conservation Service
Program Goals	The EQIP, established by the 1996 Farm Bill, is one of the several voluntary conservation programs which are part of the

	USDA Conservation Toolbox to install or implement structural, vegetative, and management practices.
Program Restrictions	Through the locally led process, EQIP works primarily in priority areas identified by conservation district-led local work groups involving local community members, state and federal agencies, and others.
Use of Funds or Support	EQIP offers financial, educational, and technical help to install or implement structural, vegetative, and management practices.
Address	RR#12, Box 202 C Greensburg, PA 15601-9271
Phone	724-834-9063 ext. 3 724-837-4127 - Fax
Web Site	www.pa.nrcs.usda.gov/programshom.htm

Farmland Preservation Program

Agency	Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
Program Goals	This program helps to preserve Pennsylvania's prime farmland. This program is part of the state's Growing Greener Initiative.
Program Restrictions	Ideally, projects should be completed within the 2000-2001 fiscal year. At a minimum, projects must be commenced before June 30, 2002.
Use of Funds or Support	These funds may be used for the purchase of agricultural conservation easements.
Address	Ray Pickering Director, Bureau of Farmland Protection Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture Bureau of Farmland Protection 2301 North Cameron Street, Room 404 Harrisburg PA 17110
Phone	717-783-3167
Web Site	http://www.pda.state.pa.us

Farmland Protection

Agency	Natural Resources Conservation Service
Program Goals	Pennsylvania is a national leader in using the Farmland Protection Program. NRCS has provided funding through existing state and local preservation organizations or protect over 3.300 acres of prime agricultural farmland in 16 counties.
Program Restrictions	N/A
Use of Funds or Support	Farmland protection ensures the agricultural use of the land, maintains open space and protects farming as a way of life.
Address	RR#12, Box 202 C Greensburg, PA 15601-9271
Phone	724-834-9063 ext. 3 724-837-4127 - Fax
Web Site	www.pa.nrcs.usda.gov/programshom.htm

Fish America Foundation

Agency	Fish America Foundation
	Grants awarded for: streambank stabilization materials, instream habitat improvements, contracted heavy equipment, and

Program Goals	<p>stream morphology work. The FishAmerica Foundation provides funding to non-profit organizations such as sporting clubs, civic associations, conservation groups, and to a lesser extent state agencies, in the United States and Canada. FishAmerica reserves the right to determine, at its sole discretion, the eligibility of a project for support.</p> <p>Conservation project applications may be submitted at any time; however, research project applications are only accepted from May 1st to July 1st of each year. All projects are for one-year only. FishAmericas review period is three to four months. Additional information may be requested before an award is finalized. When applying for funds, at a minimum include the following:</p>
Program Restrictions	<p>The Conservation Projects Committee funds hands-on, action-oriented projects that have clear and identifiable benefits to sport fish populations and the sport of fishing. While sound research should be the basis for all grant applications, the Conservation Projects Committee only funds projects that directly enhance water quality, habitat and/or sport fish populations. The average conservation grant is \$7,500. FishAmerica prefers projects with overall budgets of less than \$100,000.</p> <p>The Research Projects Committee funds research projects that have regional or national implication, not local. The committee prefers to fund national model projects, thereby making a bigger impact on the sport of fishing. The average research grant is \$15,000.</p> <p>The foundation does not provide funds for the following projects or purposes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⌘ Donations of fishing tackle; ⌘ Salaries, administration, overhead or travel for conservation projects; ⌘ Monitoring related to conservation projects; ⌘ Individuals; ⌘ Local stream monitoring programs; ⌘ Political activities which attempt to influence political campaigns or legislation; ⌘ Access projects such as road construction, boat ramps or fishing piers; ⌘ Loans, endowments, trips, tours, tickets, advertising, or publications; ⌘ Permits.
Use of Funds or Support	Implementation
Address	225 Reinekers Lane Suite 420 Alexandria, VA 22314
Phone	Potential applicants with specific questions about the application process are encouraged to contact Johanna DeGroof, Grants Administrator at jdegroff@asafishing.org or 703-548-6338.
Web Site	http://www.asafishing.org/programs/conservation/fishamerica/faf_involved.htm

GIS (Geographic Information System) Software Grant Program

Agency	Conservation Technology Support Program (CTSP)
Program Goals	GIS can be used to retrieve previously developed spatial data or to create new data. The true power of GIS software is not in the creating of great maps, but in how easily it enables people to solve environmental problems by uncovering and analyzing trends and patterns. The DEP, working through a cooperative partnership with the Environmental System Research Institute, Inc (ESRI) will make available the latest commercial release of ArcView GIS Software and training to selected schools.
Program Restrictions	The Conservation Technology Support Program (CTSP) annually awards grants of equipment plus software and training to 501c3 tax-exempt conservation organizations to build their Geographic Information Systems (GIS) capacity. We do not make cash grants.
Use of Funds or Support	<p>Basic grants include a powerful PC computer and monitor suitable to use for ArcView-based GIS, plus an inkjet printer. You may request other equipment (see below, under Special grants). Sometimes, the review committee is able to add additional equipment to some grants, beyond what was requested. Software for Basic grantees usually includes the latest ArcView software, plus the Spatial Analyst extension.</p> <p>Special grants cover all other types of packages, with equipment and software customized to fit particular needs.</p>
Address	116 New Montgomery Street, Suite 500 San Francisco, CA 94105

Phone 415-979-0474

Web Site <http://www.ctsp.org/>

Great Lakes Protection Fund

Agency Great Lakes Protection Fund

Program Goals The Great Lakes Protection Fund welcomes preproposals for projects that enhance the health of the Great Lakes ecosystem. Applicants should propose projects that will return the greatest ecosystem benefits. Small planning grants and natural resources grants for regional efforts in the Great Lakes area.

Program Restrictions The ultimate criterion used to select projects is the anticipated benefit to the health of the Great Lakes ecosystem. Projects must identify a significant, tangible ecological outcome and a pragmatic plan to achieve it. Preproposals should identify the expected outcome of the work to be undertaken as precisely as possible. Projects must also lead to benefits for the entire Great Lakes ecosystem. The Fund prefers to support projects which take concrete actions to achieve basin-wide ecological results. Support for activities such as conferences, environmental education, and basic research will be considered for support only when they are part of a broader, regional action strategy which is designed to impact the entire ecosystem. Projects must supplement existing efforts to protect and restore the health of the Great Lakes ecosystem. The Fund will not support projects which duplicate ongoing initiatives or replace government funds.

Use of Funds or Support Planning, implementation

Address 1560 Sherman Avenue, Suite 880
Evanston, IL 60201

Phone 847-425-8150

Web Site <http://www.glpf.org/>

Growing Greener Watershed Grants

Agency The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)

Program Goals The new Growing Greener Program signed into law by Governor Tom Ridge in 1999 will invest nearly \$650 million over the next five years to preserve farmland and protect open space; eliminate the maintenance backlog in State Parks; clean up abandoned mines and restore watershed; and provide new and upgraded water and sewer systems.

Program Restrictions N/A

Use of Funds or Support Ninety-six percent of the water-quality-impaired watersheds in Pennsylvania are polluted because of nonpoint sources of pollution, such as abandoned mine drainage, urban and agricultural runoff, atmospheric deposition on-lont sewage systems and earthmoving. The purpose of the Growing Greener grants is to address these and similar concerns through local, watershed-based planning, restoration and protection efforts

Address DEP Grants Center
15th Floor, Rachel Carson State Office Building
400 Market Street
PO Box 8776
Harrisburg, PA 17105-8776

Phone 717-705-5400

Web Site www.dep.state.pa.us/growgreen/

Keystone Conservation Fund

Agency Bureau of Library Development/Division of Subsidies and Grants

Program Goals

The Keystone Recreation, Park, and Conservation Fund Act authorizes the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) to grant funds and technical assistance to local governments and municipal authorities for community and regional projects involving public park, recreation, and conservation areas and facilities. This includes funds to local governments and non-profit organizations for the planning, acquisition and development of parks, recreation trails, greenways, and river conservation projects. Municipalities may apply for grants to construct, renovate or improve their public library facilities. Grants may provide up to 50% of the costs of eligible projects. Mini Grants are grants of \$50,000 or less to make libraries accessible to persons with disabilities and for non-routine maintenance. Major Grants are for larger grants to assist in the construction of new public library buildings, and major renovations or additions to existing buildings.

Program Restrictions

Funds may not be used for routine maintenance or for furniture and equipment unless part of an overall construction/renovation project

Use of Funds or Support

Acquisition or expansion

Address

Bureau of Library Development/Division of Subsidies and Grants
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
6th Floor, Rachel Carson Building
400 Market Street
Harrisburg, PA 17105-2662

Phone

717-783-5727

Web Site

http://www.pde.psu.edu/grants/keystone.html=884&folder_id=706

Keystone Historic Preservation Grant Program

Agency

Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission

Program Goals

This program preserves historic properties that are open to the general public.

Program Restrictions

The grants range from \$5,000 to \$100,000, and a 50/50 match is required.

Use of Funds or Support

The funds may be used for the preservation, rehabilitation, or restoration of historic properties such as buildings, structures, sites, or objects.

Address

Bryan VanSweden Grant Program Administrator
Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission
P.O. Box 1026
Harrisburg PA 17108

Phone

717-772-5071

Web Site

<http://www.artsnet.org/phmc>

Keystone Land Trust Program

Agency

Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR)

Program Goals

This program provides financial assistance to land trust organizations for the preservation and protection of natural areas in the Commonwealth. This program is part of the state's Growing Greener Initiative.

Program Restrictions

Organizations must pre-qualify to apply for matching grants of up to 50% of the eligible project costs.

Use of Funds or Support

The funds may be used for acquisition and planning grants

Address

Southwest Regional Field Office
1405 State Office Building
300 Liberty Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

Phone	412-880-0486 412-565-2635 - Fax
Web Site	http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us

Kodak American Greenways Awards Program

Agency	The Conservation Fund and Eastman Kodak Company
Program Goals	Provide seed money to stimulate greenway planning and design. Supports pioneering work in linking the nation's natural areas, historic sites, parks and open space.
Program Restrictions	Grant recipients are selected according to criteria that include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * importance of the project to local greenway development efforts. * demonstrated community support for the project. * extent to which the grant will result in matching funds or other support from public or private sources. * likelihood of tangible results. * capacity of the organization to complete the project.
Use of Funds or Support	Planning, implementation
Address	Leigh Anne McDonald - American Greenways Coordinator The Conservation Fund 1800 North Kent Street, Suite 1120 Arlington, VA 22209
Phone	703-525-6300
Web Site	lmcdonald@conservationfund.org

Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Grants

Agency	LWCF
Program Goals	<p>This federal funding source was established in 1965 to provide park and recreation opportunities to residents throughout the United States. Money for the fund comes through the sale of lease of non-renewable resources, primarily federal offshore oil and gas leases and surplus federal land sales. In the past, Congress has also appropriated LWCF monies for state-side projects. These state-side LWCF grants can be used by communities to acquire and build a variety of park and recreation facilities, include trails. This funding source has little or no funding allocated for state-side projects for several years.</p> <p>State-side LWCF funds are annually distributed by the National Park Service through the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. Communities must match LWCF grants with 50 percent of the local project costs through in-kind services or cash. All projects funded by the LWCF grants must be exclusively for recreation purposes, into perpetuity.</p> <p>Administered through Community Conservation Partnerships Program.</p>
Program Restrictions	N/A
Use of Funds or Support	Plan and invest in existing park system.
Address	Headquarters: U.S. Department of the Interior National Park Service, Recreation Programs Room MIB-MS 3622 1849 C Street NW Washington, DC 20240
Phone	202-565-1200
Web Site	http://www.nrc.nps.gov/lwcf/

KaBOOM! (National Non-profit)

Agency	KaBOOM! (National Non-profit)
Program Goals	To bring together people, community organizations and businesses to develop safe, healthy and much-needed playgrounds.
Program Restrictions	N/A
Use of Funds or Support	Leveraged spending power with well-established companies in the play equipment industry. Also, corporate and foundation support that can include volunteers and technical resources.
Address	2213 M Street, NW, Suite 300 Washington, DC 20037
Phone	202-659-0215
Web Site	http://www.kaboom.org

Maintenance Grants

Agency	Pennsylvania Urban and Community Forestry Department
Program Goals	Aids municipalities in implementing a tree care program for street trees and trees in public right-of-ways.
Program Restrictions	Requires a cash match, official tree body, and a current inventory.
Use of Funds or Support	Funds can be used for pruning and tree care.
Address	Mark Remcheck Washington County Cooperative Extension Office Room 601 Courthouse Square Washington, PA 15301
Phone	412-228-6881 412-228-6939 - Fax
Web Site	N/A

Mini Grants Program

Agency	Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR)
Program Goals	This program provides seed money to help organize community forestry activities. Money may be used to train volunteers and develop or purchase educational materials and tools.
Program Restrictions	Eligible volunteer groups receive mini grants up to \$100.
Use of Funds or Support	The funds may be used for organizational needs, such as training, tools, and materials.
Address	Rachel Billingham, Rural Forestry Coordinator, DCNR Forestry Rural and Community Forestry P.O. Box 8552 Harrisburg, PA 17105-8552
Phone	717-783-0385

Web Site <http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us>

Municipal Challenge Grant

Agency Pennsylvania Urban and Community Forestry Department

Program Goals Geared to projects in public spaces and right-of-ways.

Program Restrictions N/A

Use of Funds or Support Aimed at supporting municipal tree inventories, tree planting, and care

Address Mark Remcheck
Washington County Cooperative Extension Office
Room 601
Courthouse Square
Washington, PA 15301

Phone 412-228-6881
412-228-6939 - Fax

Web Site N/A

National Estuary Grant Program

Agency Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)

Program Goals Supports the development of programs to protect coastal watersheds in estuaries of national significance, which includes the Delaware Estuary in Pennsylvania

Program Restrictions N/A

Use of Funds or Support Planning

Address U.S. EPA Region III 1650 Arch Street Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029

Phone 215-814-5000
215-814-5103 - Fax

Web Site <http://www.epa.gov/owow/estuaries/>

NGA Youth Garden Grants

Agency National Gardening Association

Program Goals Awards 400 Youth Garden Grants to schools, neighborhood groups, community centers, camps, clubs, treatment facilities, and intergenerational programs throughout the United States.

Program Restrictions Eligible groups must plan to garden in 2003 with at least 15 children between the ages of three and 18.

Use of Funds or Support Grants consist of an assortment of quality tools, seeds, and garden products generously contributed by companies from the lawn and garden industry.

NGA

Address	1100 Dorset Street South Burlington, VT 05403
Phone	800-538-7476 800-864-6889 (fax)
Web Site	http://www.kidsgardening.com/grants.asp

National Recreational Trails Fund Act (NRTFA)

Agency	PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (administered through Community Conservation Partnerships Program).
Program Goals	The recreational trails program provides funds to develop and maintain recreational trails for motorized and nonmotorized recreational trail users. The program funding represents a portion of the revenue received by the Federal Highway Trust Fund from the federal motor fuel excise tax paid by users of off-road recreational vehicles.
Program Restrictions	A component of TEA21, matching requirements for the Pennsylvania Recreational Trails Program Grants are 80% federal money, up to a maximum of \$150,000, and 20% non-federal money. However, acquisition projects will require a 50/50 match. "Soft match" is permitted from any project sponsor, whether private or public money. ("Soft match" includes credit for donations of funds, materials, services, or new right-of-way.)
Use of Funds or Support	The department must distribute funding among motorized, nonmotorized, and diverse trail use as follows: 40% minimum for diverse trail use, 30% minimum for nonmotorized recreation, and 30% minimum for motorized recreation. The Commonwealth may also use up to 5% of its funds for the operation of educational programs to promote safety and environmental protection related to the use of recreational trails. The department will also consider projects that provide for the redesign, reconstruction, nonroutine maintenance, or relocation of recreational trails to benefit the natural environment.
Address	Southwest Regional Field Office 1405 State Office Building 300 Liberty Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15222
Phone	412-880-0486 412-565-2635 - Fax
Web Site	http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us

National Resources Inventory (NRI)

Agency	Natural Resources Conservation Service
Program Goals	NRCS is exclusive in completing the NRI on a continual basis to monitor the trends and conditions of the soil, water, and natural resources on private lands throughout the state. .
Program Restrictions	Private lands.
Use of Funds or Support	Based on this critical information, decision makers and planners can set program priorities and target efforts where the needs are greatest
Address	RR#12, Box 202 C Greensburg, PA 15601-9271
Phone	724-834-9063 ext. 3 724-837-4127 - Fax
Web Site	www.pa.nrcs.usda.gov/programshom.htm

Nonpoint Source Management Program

Agency	PA Department of Environmental Protection
Program Goals	Grants for planning and nonpoint source pollution control projects
Program Restrictions	N/A
Use of Funds or Support	Planning and implementation
Address	Unknown
Phone	717-787-5259
Web Site	http://www.dep.state.pa.us/

Pennsylvania Conservation Corps

Agency	Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry
Program Goals	This program provides work experience, job training, and educational opportunities to young adults while accomplishing conservation, recreation, historic preservation, and urban revitalization work on public lands.
Program Restrictions	The project sponsors receive the services of a Pennsylvania Conservation Corps crew, fully paid, for one year. Sponsors can also receive up to \$20,000 for needed materials and contracted services. Sponsors must provide a 25% cash match on material and contracted services costs.
Use of Funds or Support	Funds may be used for materials and contracted services needed to complete approved projects.
Address	Lou Scott Director 1304 Labor and Industry Building 7th and Forster Streets Harrisburg PA 17120
Phone	717-783-6385
Web Site	http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us

Pennsylvania Council of the Arts (PCA) Grants

Agency	Pennsylvania Council of the Arts (PCA)
Program Goals	The purpose of the Arts in Education (AIE) Division is to develop and support quality arts education programs in schools and community settings, for all Pennsylvanians. AIE-funded programs foster participation in the creative process. AIE programs should have substantial impact, expanding beyond funded activities.
Program Restrictions	Organizations must be nonprofit, 501(c)(3), tax-exempt corporations, a unit of government or school district providing arts programming and/or arts services in Pennsylvania. A Federal Identification Number, assigned by the Internal Revenue Service, is required before a contract can be issued. Organizations must be incorporated in and conduct business in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in order to apply for support. Organizations are required to provide proof of incorporation and activity in Pennsylvania before applications are reviewed or funds awarded.
Use of Funds or Support	Education
Address	Pennsylvania Council on the Arts Room 216, Finance Building Harrisburg, PA 17120
Phone	717-787-6883 717-783-2538 - Fax
Web Site	http://www.artsnet.org/pca/pca.html

Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission

Agency	Pennsylvania Historic and Museum Commission (PHMC)
Program Goals	The PHMC provides a variety of grants to local governments and organizations with tax-exempt status. Grants are awarded annually on a competitive basis, to further the interpretation of Pennsylvania history, preserve local historic records and documents, prepare exhibits, research local history, restore historic buildings owned by local governments or non-profit organizations, and assist local governments that have municipal preservation ordinances.
Program Restrictions	N/A
Use of Funds or Support	Historic Preservation
Address	State Historic Preservation Office Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission Bureau for Historic Preservation PO Box 1026 Harrisburg, PA 17108-1026
Phone	717-783-8946
Web Site	bhp@phmc.pa.state.us

Pennsylvania Urban and Community Forestry Program

Agency	Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR)
Program Goals	The three grant programs -- the Municipal Challenge Grant Program, the Community Improvement Grant Program, and the Tree Maintenance Grant Program -- are designed to foster community improvement through the planting and maintenance of trees.
Program Restrictions	These matching grant programs carry funding restrictions based on population. Municipalities may receive between \$1,000 and \$5,000 per season. Volunteer and community groups may receive between \$1,000 and \$3,000 per season. The trees must be planted on public or school property. Applicants must reapply for these funds
Use of Funds or Support	The funds may be used for planting and maintaining trees
Address	Karli Suders, Urban Forestry Coordinator, DCNR Forestry Rural and Community Forestry P.O. Box 8552 Harrisburg PA 17105-8552
Phone	717-705-2825
Web Site	http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us

PHMC History & Museum Grants

Agency	Pennsylvania Federation of Museums and Historical Organizations (PFMHO)
Program Goals	To assist small historical organizations in improving professionalism and building capacity
Program Restrictions	N/A
Use of Funds or Support	Historic Preservation
Address	State Historic Preservation Office

	Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission Bureau for Historic Preservation PO Box 1026 Harrisburg, PA 17108-1026
Phone	717-783-8946
Web Site	www.artsnet.org@phmc

PL 83-566, The Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act

Agency	Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)
Program Goals	Plan development for natural resource concerns within a watershed area; cost-sharing available to carry out plan. This program provides technical and financial assistance to address resource and related economic problems on a watershed basis. Projects related to watershed protection, flood prevention, water supply, water quality, erosion and sediment control, wetland creation and restoration, fish and wildlife habitat enhancement, and public recreation are eligible for assistance. Technical and financial assistance is also available for planning and installation of works of improvement to protect, develop, and use land and water resources in small watersheds.
Program Restrictions	Projects are limited to watersheds containing < 250,000 acres.
Use of Funds or Support	Implementation
Address	Headquarters: Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service P.O. Box 2890 Washington, DC 20013-9770
Phone	202-720-3534
Web Site	http://www.epa.gov/owow/watershed/wacademy/fund/prevent.html

Preservation Fund of Pennsylvania

Agency	Preservation Pennsylvania
Program Goals	<p>The Preservation Fund of Pennsylvania has four special-purpose funds for acquisition, crisis intervention, priority issues, and discretionary projects. In all cases, special consideration will be given to projects that assist properties listed on Preservation Pennsylvania's Pennsylvania at Risk annual listing of endangered properties.</p> <p>The Revolving Fund for Historic Property Acquisition makes low-interest loans and grants of up to \$50,000 for acquiring threatened historic properties.</p> <p>The Crisis Intervention Revolving Fund makes deferred loans of up to \$10,000 at favorable interest rates for contracting professional services for information and assistance in countering threats to historic buildings. Eligible activities include sales marketing packages, pro forma analysis, engineering studies, feasibility studies, and search for nominations to the National Register of Historic Places.</p> <p>The Discretionary Revolving Fund makes low-interest loans of up to \$30,000 for activities that address threats to significant resources that are not likely to be met through existing preservation programs.</p> <p>The Revolving Special Loan Fund makes low-interest loans of up to \$20,000 to meet special historic preservation needs not likely to be met through other existing programs. The fund provides direct assistance for the protection of endangered tangible cultural resources and promotes innovative demonstration projects.</p>
Use of Funds or Support	The grants are intended to increase a local group's ability to solve a problem, stimulate and increase public discussion of preservation issues, and generate new ideas.
Address	257 North Street Harrisburg PA 17107
Phone	717-234-2310
Web Site	http://www.preservationpa.org/FrameFunding.htm

Preservation Services Fund

Agency	National Trust for Historic Preservation
Program Goals	The Preservation Services Fund provides matching grants ranging from \$500 to \$5,000 (typically from \$1,000 to \$1,500) to nonprofit organizations, universities and public agencies to initiate preservation projects. Funds may be used to support consultants with professional expertise in areas such as architecture, law, planning, economics, and graphic design; conferences that address subjects of particular importance to historic preservation; and curriculum development in preservation directed at select audiences
Program Restrictions	Grantees must be members of the National Trust Forum to receive an award. At least three competitive quotes must be obtained for any procurement that exceeds \$10,000.
Use of Funds or Support	Funds are utilized to ensure the protection of historically and architecturally significant properties.
Address	Northeast Field Office 7 Faneuil Hall Marketplace 4th Floor Boston MA 02109
Phone	617-523-0885
Web Site	http://www.nthp.org/main/frontline/departments/financial.htm

Resource Conservation and Development Councils (RC&Ds)

Agency	Natural Resources Conservation Service
Program Goals	Improve the local economy and environments.
Program Restrictions	RC&Ds are local representatives of citizens, county and local government, and other interested organizations who work together to improve and sustain the natural and economic resources of rural communities through plans which are facilitated by coordinators.
Use of Funds or Support	Businesses are developed, recreation areas are improved or developed, markets are developed, for local products, value is added to existing products, and resources management is accomplished through efforts to improve the local economy and environments.
Address	RR#12, Box 202 C Greensburg, PA 15601-9271
Phone	724-834-9063 ext. 3 724-837-4127 - Fax
Web Site	www.pa.nrcs.usda.gov/programshom.htm

Senior Community Center Capital Assistance Grant Program

Agency	Pennsylvania Department of Aging
Program Goals	This program helps senior community centers in Pennsylvania pay for capital improvements to revitalize their facilities.
Program Restrictions	The program is limited to senior community centers as defined by the Department of Aging.
Use of Funds or Support	The grants may be used for construction, acquisition, renovation, repair, equipment, and furnishings.
Address	Betty Johnstone Aging Services Specialist 555 Walnut Street 5th Floor Harrisburg PA 17101
Phone	717-783-6207

Web Site http://sites.state.pa.us/PA_Exec/Aging/

Shared Municipal Services Program

Agency Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED)

Program Goals This program provides grants to promote cooperation between neighboring municipalities to discover those municipal functions they can provide more efficiently and effectively together than they can separately.

Program Restrictions Grants are available for 50% of the cost of the total project. Grantees must match funds with cash, municipal labor, or other in-kind contributions.

Use of Funds or Support Funds may be used for combined police record administration, joint ownership of municipal equipment, shared data processing operations, joint sign-making, the initial administration of newly formed COGs, or other joint municipal projects.

Address Fred Reddig Local Government Policy Manager
Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development
Governor's Center for Local Government Services
325 Forum Building
Harrisburg PA 17120

Phone 888-223-6837

Web Site <http://www.dced.state.pa.us>

Single Application Grants

Agency Pennsylvania Center for Local Government Services, Department of Community and Economic Development

Program Goals Through one application form, applicants can apply for financial assistance from the Department's various funding sources.

Program Restrictions Applications can be submitted to request 100% of funding for the proposed project. However, applications that can show some match in the form of dollars or services are more likely to be successfully awarded. Funds are allocated to this program annually and are distributed quarterly. Applications can be submitted at any time.

Use of Funds or Support This program funds a wide variety of municipal projects, including recreational facility improvements and development.

Address Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
325 Forum Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Phone 717-787-8169 or 1-888-223-6837

Web Site <http://www.inventpa.com>

Soil Surveys

Agency Natural Resources Conservation Service

Program Goals NRCS completes soil surveys that contain accurate information on soil types and their suitability's and limitations for planners, engineers, farmers and ranchers, and state, local and federal decision makers.

Program Restrictions N/A

Use of Funds or Support Soils information is used to help preserve prime and important farmland and to identify wetlands. It is also used to reduce the rate of soil erosion on cropland develop bridge and road structures and placement, determine suitable sites for housing developments and waste disposal and to determine pesticide and nutrient application rates to reduce ground and surface water pollution.

Address	RR#12, Box 202 C Greensburg, PA 15601-9271
Phone	724-834-9063 ext. 3 724-837-4127 - Fax
Web Site	www.pa.nrcs.usda.gov/programshom.htm

Stormwater Management Program

Agency	Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)
Program Goals	Watershed planning for stormwater control (counties) and implementation of programs at local levels (municipalities)
Program Restrictions	The Department acts as technical consultants to the Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority (PENNVEST) in a low interest loan program to government entities to correct existing storm drainage problems. Projects may include transport, storage and infiltration of stormwater and best management practices to address point or nonpoint source pollution associated with stormwater. A government entity must have enacted stormwater ordinances consistent with a stormwater management plan if the entity is located in a watershed with an approved stormwater plan, or, in those areas not having an approved plan, must at least have enacted a stormwater ordinance consistent with Act 167.
Use of Funds or Support	Planning, implementation
Address	Department of Environmental Protection Bureau of Watershed Conservation Division of Water Use Planning Rachel Carson State Office Building P.O. Box 8555 Harrisburg, PA 17105-8555
Phone	717-787-5267
Web Site	http://www.dep.state.pa.us/dep/deputate/watermgt/wc/subjects/stormwatermanagement.htm

Surface Transportation Program (STP) Funds

Agency	Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)
Program Goals	These funds can be used for bicycle and pedestrian facility construction or non-construction projects such as brochures, public service announcements, and route maps. The projects related to bicycle and pedestrian transportation must be a part of the long Range Transportation Plan. These funds are controlled by the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) in the <u>Transportation Improvement Program</u> .
Program Restrictions	Expands STP eligibilities to specifically include the following [1108(a)]: sodium acetate/formate, or other environmentally acceptable, minimally corrosive anti-icing and de-icing compositions programs to reduce extreme cold starts environmental restoration and pollution abatement projects, including retrofit or construction of stormwater treatment facilities (limited to 20% of total cost of 3R-type transportation projects) natural habitat mitigation, but specifies that if wetland or natural habitat mitigation is within the service area of a mitigation bank, preference will be given to use the bank privately owned vehicles and facilities that are used to provide intercity passenger service by bus modifications of existing public sidewalks (regardless of whether the sidewalk is on a Federal-aid highway right-of-way), to comply with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act infrastructure based intelligent transportation system capital improvements
Use of Funds or	Transportation, planning, railroad crossing improvements

Support	
Address	Pennsylvania Department of Transportation Engineering District 11 45 Thoms Run Road Bridgeville, PA 15017 John Fall, Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator
Phone	202-366-4000
Web Site	http://ostpxweb.dot.gov/livabili/STP.htm

Tony Hawk Foundation

Agency	Tony Hawk Foundations
Program Goals	The Tony Hawk Foundation seeks to foster lasting improvements in society, with an emphasis on helping children. Through grants and other charitable donations, the foundation supports programs focusing on the creation of public skateboard parks, and other causes. The primary mission of the Tony Hawk Foundation is to promote high-quality skateboard parks in low-income areas throughout the United States.
Program Restrictions	The Foundation will favor parks that: are designed by qualified and experienced skatepark contractors, include local skates in the design process, are in low-income areas, or areas with a high population of at-risk youths, can demonstrate a strong grassroots commitment to the project particularly in the form of fund-raising by local skateboarders and other community groups, have a creative mix of street obstacles and transition/vert terrain, don't require skaters or their parents to sign waivers, encourage skaters to look after their own safety and the safety of others without restricting their access to the park or over-regulating their use of it, are open during daylight hours 365 days a year, don't charge money, are in areas that currently have no skateboarding facilities.
Use of Funds or Support	To facilitate the design, development, construction and operation of new, quality skateboard parks and facilities. The Foundation may offer technical assistance on design and construction, promotion materials, training materials, and safety information. The Foundation may also facilitate support from vendors, suppliers, and community leaders.
Address	Tony Hawk Foundation P.O. Box 1780 El Granada, CA 94018
Contact	Steve Hawk questions@tonyhawkfoundation.org
Web Site	http://www.tonyhawkfoundation.org

Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA21)

Agency	TEA21/ISTEA
Program Goals	The primary source of federal funding for greenways and trails is through the Transportation Equity Act of 1998 (TEA21), formerly the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA). ISTEA provided millions of dollars in funding for bicycle and pedestrian transportation projects across the country and will provide millions more as TEA21. There are many sections of TEA21 that support the development of bicycle and pedestrian corridors. The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) can utilize funding from any of these subsets of TEA21 and should be contacted for further details. Those sections of TEA21 which apply to development of trails, sidewalks and bicycle paths include:
Program Restrictions	N/A
Use of Funds or Support	Safety and Transportation Enhancements
Address	Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission
Phone	202-366-4000

Web Site <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/tea21/>

Travel and Tourism Office

Agency	Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED)
Program Goals	The office manages the Commonwealth's tourism marketing campaign and administers the Regional Marketing Initiative and the Tourism Promotion Agency Matching Grant Program. The Regional Marketing Initiative program provides matching state funds to regional tourism development efforts across the Commonwealth. The Tourism Promotion Agency Matching Grant Program provides state matching funding to tourism promotion agencies with a preference given to regional activities and efforts to market cultural and historic assets of the Commonwealth.
Program Restrictions	Applications must include participation from at least five counties and demonstrate a specified amount of local matching funds. Tourism Promotion Agency Matching Grant Program: This is a closed program limited to properly designated county tourism promotion agencies that currently receive funding from the program.
Use of Funds or Support	Examples of funded projects include the design and publication of an outdoor recreation map for Philadelphia and neighboring counties, a project to package eco-tourism and outdoor recreation in the north-central region of Pennsylvania, and a marketing program for cultural and historic tourism attractions in the Pittsburgh region
Address	Fritz Smith Director Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development Travel and Tourism Office 404 Forum Building Harrisburg PA 17120
Phone	717-787-5453
Web Site	http://www.dced.state.pa.us

Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Program (UPARR)

Agency	National Recreation and Park Association
Program Goals	\$28.9 million is available for funding rehabilitation projects under the UPARR program . Rehabilitation grants awarded will focus on neighborhood park and recreation sites and facilities that have deteriorated to the point where health and safety are endangered or the community's range or quality recreation service is impaired.
Program Restrictions	Urban jurisdictions that are eligible would have a National Park Service Recovery Action Program (RAP) on file.
Use of Funds or Support	Remodel, rebuild or develop existing recreation areas and facilities
Address	Northeast Stewardship and Partnerships Team - Philadelphia Support Office - National Park Service 200 Chestnut Street 3 rd Floor Philadelphia, PA 19106
Phone	215-597-9195
Web Site	www.ncrc.nps.gov/uparr

U.S. Soccer Foundation's Grant Program

Agency	U.S. Soccer Foundation
Program Goals	To enhance, assist and grow the sport of soccer. The foundation awards grants in the form of cash, equipment, services, or a combination of any of these.
Program Restrictions	The following types of applications will not be accepted: \$ Political campaigns \$ Foreign projects of individuals \$ Organizations that discriminate by race or creed

	<p>\$ Pass through grants (funds granted to one organization for the purpose of granting to another)</p> <p>\$ Capital projects where the applicant does not own the reap property or does not have a minimum 10-year land use agreement in place</p> <p>\$ Grants to a for-profit entity that are not solely to promote a non-for-profit purpose</p>
Use of Funds or Support	<p>\$ Support the long-term development of the sport to the highest level</p> <p>\$ Support soccer programs where none previously existed</p> <p>\$ Support gender equity throughout the sport</p> <p>\$ Promote participation by the physically and mentally disadvantaged</p> <p>\$ Foster programs which provide health, physical fitness and educational opportunities through soccer</p> <p>\$ Support the construction of fields and soccer specific infrastructure</p>
Address	1050 17 th Street, NW, Suite 210 Washington, DC 20036
Phone	202-872-6651
Web Site	www.ussoccerfoundation.org

Vira I. Heinz Endowment

Agency	H.J. Heinz Endowments
Program Goals	Provides funds to the Western Pennsylvania Watershed Protection Program to implement comprehensive ecosystem management programs in selected western Pennsylvania watersheds. In addition, small matching grants are provided to DCNR for the Coldwater Heritage Program.
Program Restrictions	N/A
Use of Funds or Support	Planning, implementation
Address	The Heinz Endowments 30 CNG Tower 625 Liberty Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15222
Phone	814-669-4847 John Dawes
Web Site	www.heinz.org/

Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act (PL-566)

Agency	Natural Resources Conservation Service
Program Goals	Pennsylvania's recent use of PL-566 has been in the area of abandoned mine drainage. Projects have reduced damage from erosion, floodwater, and sediment; improved water quality problems associated with abandoned mine drainage; improved wildlife habitat; and provided safety for residents and beautiful green areas for everyone to enjoy.
Program Restrictions	N/A
Use of Funds or Support	Public Law 83-566 authorizes NRCS to provide technical and financial assistance to local organizations for planning and implementing small watershed projects. PL-566 projects provide flood prevention, watershed protection, and both agricultural and nonagricultural water management for water quality improvement.
Address	RR#12, Box 202 C Greensburg, PA 15601-9271
Phone	724-834-9063 ext. 3 724-837-4127 - Fax

Web Site www.pa.nrcs.usda.gov/programshom.htm

Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention (Small Watershed) Grants

Agency	The Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
Program Goals	The Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) provides funding to state and local agencies or non-profit organizations authorized to carry out, maintain, and operate watershed improvements involving 250,000 acres or less. The NRCS provides financial and technical assistance for eligible projects to improve watershed protection, flood prevention, sedimentation control, public water-based fish and wildlife enhancements and recreation planning. NRCS requires a 50 percent local match for public recreation and fish and wildlife projects.
Program Restrictions	N/A
Use of Funds or Support	Soil, Water, Flood Plain, and Watersheds
Address	Natural Resources Conservation Service Attn: Conservation Communications Staff P.O. Box 2890 Washington, DC 20013
Phone	717-237-2100
Web Site	www.nrcs.usda.gov

Watershed Restoration and Assistance Program

Agency	Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)
Program Goals	The goal of the WRAP grant program is to address non-point source pollution issues on a watershed basis and to demonstrate effective techniques for achieving the program's goals and objectives.
Program Restrictions	Grants can be obtained through this program in amounts from \$100 to \$50,000.
Use of Funds or Support	All projects should be designed to correct, curtail or prevent degradation to water resources.
Address	Pennsylvania DEP Watershed Support Division Rachel Carson State Office Building P. O. Box 8555 Harrisburg, PA 17105
Phone	717-787-5259
Web Site	http://www.dep.state.pa.us/

Western PA Watershed Protection Program

Agency	H.J. Heinz Endowments
Program Goals	Provides funding to grassroots organizations and watershed associations for site specific watershed remediation in western Pennsylvania.
Program Restrictions	N/A
Use of Funds or Support	Planning, implementation
Address	The Heinz Endowments 30 CNG Tower 625 Liberty Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15222

Phone 814-669-4847 John Dawes

Web Site www.heinz.org/

Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP)

Agency U.S. Department of Agriculture

Program Goals This program restores and protects wetlands on private property. It provides an opportunity for landowners to receive financial incentives to enhance wetlands in exchange for retiring marginal agricultural land. The Wetlands Reserve Program also provides fish and wildlife habitat, improves water quality, protects biological diversity, and develops recreational opportunities.

Program Restrictions This program offers landowners three options: permanent easements, 30-year easements, and restoration cost-share agreements.

Use of Funds or Support A landowner continues to control access to the land and may lease the land for hunting, fishing, and other undeveloped recreational activities. Landowners also may request that additional activities be evaluated to determine if they are compatible uses for the site. This request may include such items as permission to cut hay, graze livestock, or harvest wood products. Compatible uses are allowed if they are fully consistent with the protection and enhancement of the wetland. Funds are divided to pay for legal, landowner easement payment, and wetland restoration.

Address Barry Isaacs Biologist
USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
Wetland Reserve Program Coordinator
1 Credit Union Place, Suite 340
Harrisburg PA 17110

Phone 717-237-2219

Web Site <http://www.cfda.gov/public/faprs.asp>

WILD ACTION Grant Program

Agency Pennsylvania Game Commission

Program Goals This is a small grant program that encourages Pennsylvania's youth to take responsible action for wildlife and the environment. It also provides educators with the skills, ideas, and support to incorporate information about improving wildlife habitat into school curricula and/or youth group programming. This program also is designed to promote cooperation between school, youth organizations, community groups, and agencies, which are encouraged to take action that fosters wildlife conservation and earth stewardship.

Program Restrictions The program is limited to schools and nonprofit organizations that have youth programming. Youths must be involved in the planning, design, implementation, maintenance, and monitoring of the project. Selected programs receive either a \$250 or \$500 grant.

Use of Funds or Support The funds may be used for eligible projects that focus on improving habitat for wildlife on school or community property or on property with school and community access. Funds may be used to purchase or rent equipment and materials to carry out the project.

Address Theresa Alberici Project WILD Coordinator
Pennsylvania Game Commission
2001 Elmerton Avenue
Harrisburg PA 17110

Phone 717-783-4872

Web Site <http://www.pgc.state.pa.us>

Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP)

Agency Natural Resources Conservation Service

Program Goals To establish and improve fish and wildlife habitat.

Program Restrictions	The WHIP is for landowners who want to develop and improve wildlife habitat primarily on private lands.
Use of Funds or Support	Plans are developed in consultation with the local conservation district and provide both technical and financial assistance to establish and improve fish and wildlife habitat.
Address	RR#12, Box 202 C Greensburg, PA 15601-9271
Phone	724-834-9063 ext. 3 724-837-4127 - Fax
Web Site	www.pa.nrcs.usda.gov/programshom.htm

William Penn Foundation

Agency	William Penn Foundation
Program Goals	Grants to preserve natural areas, including environmental education and planning, within the Foundation's geographic area (primarily southeastern Pennsylvania)
Program Restrictions	Goals: Protect and restore watersheds and related ecosystems. Stabilize and revitalize communities around existing infrastructure. Promote smart growth and livable communities within the region.
Use of Funds or Support	Planning, implementation
Address	Two Logan Square 11th Floor 100 North Eighteenth Street Philadelphia, PA 19103
Phone	215-988-1830
Web Site	http://www.wpennfdn.org/
Phone	717-783-2656

Information Sources:

American Discovery Trail Society
www.discoverytrail.org
P.O. Box 20155
Washington, DC 20041-2155
(800) 663-2387

American Hiking Society
www.americanhiking.org
1422 Fenwick Lane
Silver Spring, MD 20910
(301) 565-6704

American Trails
www.americantrails.org
P.O. Box 11046 Prescott, AZ 86304
(520) 632-1140

League of American Bicyclists
www.bikeleague.org
1612 K Street, N.W., Suite 401
Washington, DC 20006
(202) 331-9696

The Trust for Public Land
Mid-Atlantic Regional Office
www.tpl.org/tier2_rl.cfm?folder_id=625
666 Broadway
New York, NY 10012
(212) 667-7171

*Beaver County Comprehensive Recreation
and Parks Plan*

Appendix F. Resolution No. 041003-61

RESOLUTION NO. 041003-61

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF BEAVER IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA APPROVING THE AMENDMENT TO THE BEAVER COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN, (ADOPTED BY RESOLUTION NO. 122999-48) WHEREBY THE PLAN IS AMENDED TO INCLUDE COMPREHENSIVE RECREATION AND PARKS PLAN, DATED FEBRUARY 2003, ALL OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE ORIGINAL COMPREHENSIVE PLAN REMAIN UNCHANGED;

WHEREAS, the Beaver County Planning Commission (the Planning Commission) serves as the official planning agency for Beaver County; and

WHEREAS, Section 301.4 of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code (Act of 1968, P.L. 805, No. 247, as reenacted and amended) requires that counties prepare and adopt a comprehensive plan, and that municipal plans be generally consistent with the adopted county comprehensive plan; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission has conducted a public involvement process by developing and mailing a community survey to 5,000 randomly chosen county residents, holding meetings and a visioning workshop to facilitate identification of issues, concerns, opportunities, and vision for the future, and conducted key person interviews to gain insights on existing conditions and issues under their purview; and

WHEREAS, socio-economic data, land use patterns, and geographic information were analyzed throughout the County to create the frame work for the plan; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission has distributed the draft plan to all municipalities and school districts in Beaver County, County Agencies and Authorities, neighboring counties, and to the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development for review and comment, and has taken the comments of these entities into consideration in preparation of the final draft of the plan; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission has held at least one (1) public meeting pursuant to Section 302 of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code, as amended;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the County of Beaver, a fourth class county under the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED:

1. That, pursuant to the recommendation of Frank Mancini, Jr., Director of the Beaver County Planning Commission, the Amendment to the Beaver County Comprehensive Plan, (Adopted by Resolution No. 122900-48) whereby the Plan is amended to include Beaver County Comprehensive Recreation and Parks Plan, dated February 2003, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part thereof, is hereby approved, all other terms and conditions of the original plan remain unchanged, and

2. That, the Board of Commissioners, for and on behalf of the County of Beaver, are hereby authorized to execute four duplicate counterparts of the instant Resolution and the Chief Clerk of the County of Beaver is hereby directed to attest the due

execution thereof and to affix the Seal of the County of Beaver thereto.

3. That, following the proper execution, attestation and ensembling of said duplicate counterparts of said Agreement, the Chief Clerk is hereby directed to cause delivery of the same to be made as follows: The original to the Controller of the County of Beaver; one duplicate counterpart to the Beaver County Law Department; and the remaining duplicate counterparts to Frank Mancini, Jr., Director of the Beaver County Planning Commission, for proper distribution.

Adopted this 10th day of April, 2003.

(SEAL)

Attest:

Joann L. Clarke
Chief Clerk

Approved as to Legal Form:

[Signature]
County Solicitor's Office

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
COUNTY OF BEAVER COUNTY

[Signature]
Dan Donatella, Chairman

[Signature]
Charles A. Camp

[Signature]
James Albert